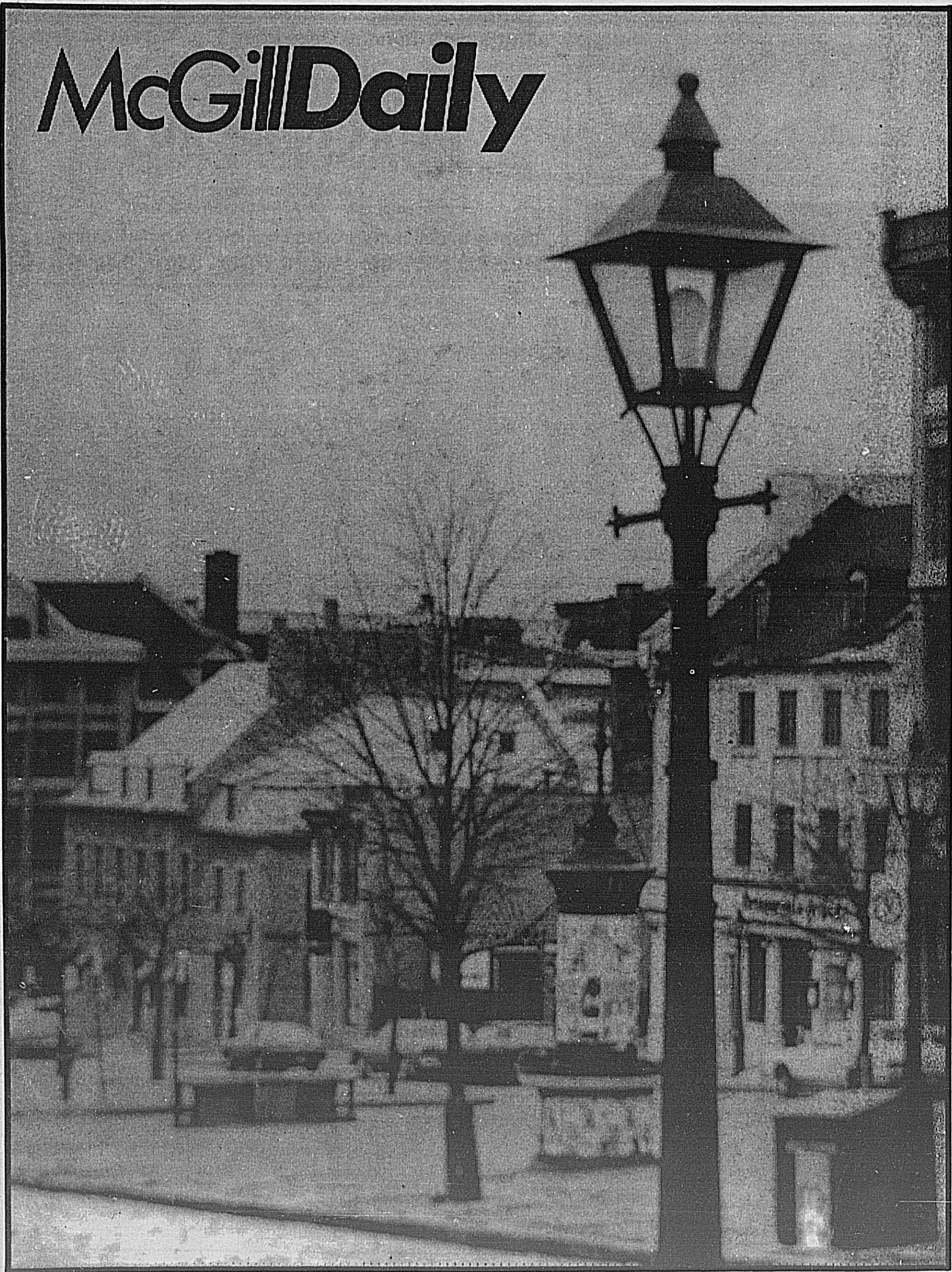


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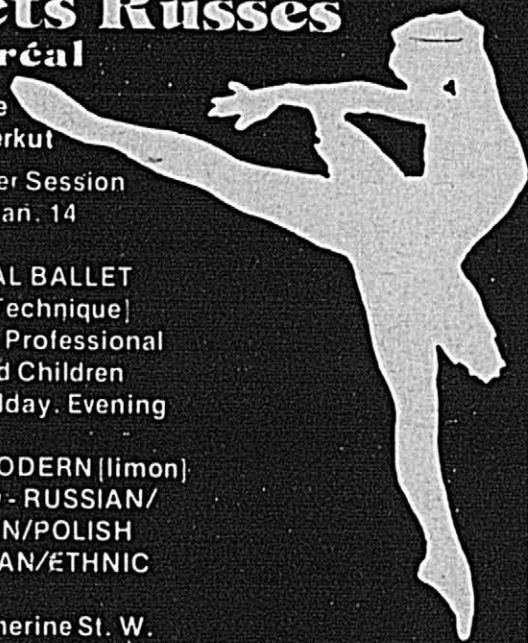
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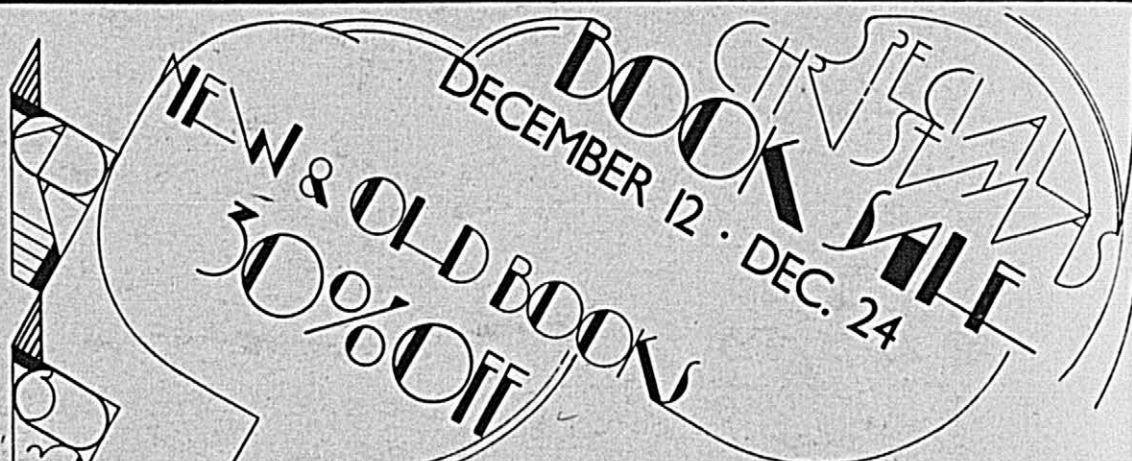


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STUDENTS OCCUPY OFFICES

MONTREAL (CUP) — College and university students at nine francophone institutions in Quebec occupied administration offices and staged protests on Thursday, November 29 as part of a "National Day of Mobilization" organized by l'Association Nationale des Etudiants du Quebec (ANEQ).

Students were responsible for the cancellation of classes at several CEGEPs and were locked out of school at two college campuses by administrators attempting to prevent demonstrations. Protesting students interrupted celebrations commemorating the anniversary of Laval University.

The demonstrations were organized on each campus by the local student association and coordinated throughout the province by ANEQ.

According to Francois Couture, a member of the Central Council of ANEQ, the students' actions were organized as a reaction against the attitude of Education Minister Jacques-Yvan Morin. "He has called students a bunch of kids and uses police force when they protest..." Couture added that the provincial student association has not heard from the Minister since February when a meeting was requested to discuss demands put forward by ANEQ. That request, said Couture, has been followed up with regular letters seeking a meeting with the Minister, none of which have been replied to.

The protest activities and the occupation were "the starting point of a program of national mobilization", said Couture. The Central Council is drawing up a plan for further pressure to begin in January based on student activities for the past three months and the day of mobilization, said Couture.

He did not comment on what form the pressure would take but noted class boycotts and occupations have proved "very successful" this term.

Couture explained that the first follow-up to the Day of Mobilization in the new year will be a program to educate students and develop a sense of student solidarity.

According to Couture, the Central Council will be implementing this program by instigating discussion around three areas: the potential power of organized students, the local campus effort in light of a national mobilization, and the most effective means of national mobilization.

Meeting

The *Daily's* second annual Party Congress will be held tomorrow at 3:00 pm in the *Daily* office. Historic agenda will include: elections for the second term's editorial board and other matters of import. The presence of all *Daily* staff members is urged.

McGillDaily

Thursday, December 8, 1977

Volume 67, No. 60

3 Cents



The *Daily* staff wishes you a Red Christmas and a Happy New Year

History to smash myths

by Hugo Fay

Ex-Vice-principal S.B. Frost has been compiling 150 years of McGill history for the past two years. The project, established by the Board of Governors to celebrate McGill's first

century and a half, is a monumental task.

When the final of three volumes goes to press in 1980, students and alumni should be the first to profit, according to Frost. "What I want essentially is to bring it all down to the level of the ordinary reader. It's got to be told intelligibly and made interesting enough for everyone to enjoy."

McGill's history is inseparable from Quebec politics. Frost will make some unconventional conclusions, and will smash the stereotype that McGill is synonymous with an anti-French mentality.

"It just isn't true," Frost said emphatically. The University was born out of the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning, which was set up by the British government to co-ordinate the development of education in Quebec.

A liberal and non-committal body, the Royal Institution attempted to introduce joint English and French programmes catering to cultural and religious differences. This failed and resulted in the advent of two isolated systems.

"Without adequate support from Britain and outmanoeuvred by Catholic French Canadians wary of the protestantization of Quebec, the Royal Institution was left powerless.

However, through a bequest in the will of James McGill, a place of "higher learning" was established. According to Frost, land south of Sherbrooke Street was sold, and these revenues, coupled with the wealth of John Ferrier, a prominent Quebec merchant, the Molsons, and the millions supplied by the Macdonald tobacco interests, McGill became self-sufficient.

"McGill has an incredibly powerful connection with its alumni."

McGill's strength, according to Frost, lies in Quebec. Both French and English have the rare opportunity to complete their education in the other language. The future does present problems, though not, Frost claims, because of the threat of Quebec separation.

"One of the most pressing issues affecting McGill is the existence of two independent English universities having little to do with each other. There should be stronger ties with Concordia. The declining enrolment at McGill is another thing.

Where McGill's anglophone sentiments are concerned Frost maintains that it was after all the English who have always been responsible for saving Quebec from New York.

"But it's not my job to go into all that," he added quickly.

Pub profits, caf in red

by David Glass

According to a financial statement released by the Students' Society, Gertrude's Pub has made a net profit this term of about \$6300 since its opening in September.

The Union cafeteria, which lost a total of \$27,000 last year, reported a loss of only \$3000 for the first term. Ron Lerman, Executive Director of the Students' Society, said that this figure was well within expectations and a considerable improvement over 1976-77.

This year's figures offer a marked contrast to those of last year when the Society was under the trusteeship of the University. Trustee Sam Kingdon did not open the pub until January and the cafeteria remained closed until late October 1976.

While the two organizations are not operated with maximum

efficiency, the Students' Society has taken steps in that direction. The beginning of this term saw the Pub redecorated, including carpeting and moving the bar to the center of the room. The Society has also made renovations in the cafeteria, repairing plumbing and fixing broken furniture.

When asked if he saw both the pub and the cafeteria operating with a profit in the next couple of years, Lerman said he didn't see why not. All of the initial reconstruction jobs have been completed. The profits, according to Council members, will be reinvested into student activities.

**Cover photo:
Meg Blank**



StudSoc Exec Director
Ron Lerman

StudSoc:

Hit by disinterest; solicits change

by Ellen McKeough

After a year and a half absence, student government returned to McGill last spring. The Constitution that created the new Students' Society mandated the Council "to promote the welfare and interests of members of the Society... to enhance the educational, cultural, environmental and social conditions of its members... to represent its membership as required... and to engage in other such activities and undertakings as may seem appropriate to the Society."

The new Society's "setting-up house" chores are largely over, and the Students' Council is halfway through its term. This article deals with Council's achievements this term and how McGill students have responded to the StudSoc.

Representation abroad

One of the minor crises the StudSoc had to handle early in September was the June resignation of VP External Roger Robillard. The External VP, in consultation with the Council, formulates policy on issues such as differential fees and is the official Students' representative outside the university. The External VP, one of the most influential positions in student government, is elected by the Council. Nominees are not required to present the platforms to the student population. Even though the only electorate that had to be informed was the Council, the election was considered a rush job by some Councillors, as the whole process, from nominations to finished product took less than two weeks. In the end, Monique Fitch was chosen to represent McGill students on the strength of an 8 to 3 vote.

One of Fitch's most important decisions will be whether to align McGill with the National Union of Students (NUS) or l'Association Nationale des Etudiants du Québec (ANEQ). After attending conferences of both organizations, Fitch seems to personally favour ANEQ, "because a provincial organization can be made aware of the problems" that face students.

ANEQ supports the abolition of tuition fees, free education, and an end to interest on student loans. Although StudSoc President Terry Reed supports, in principle, the goals of ANEQ, he maintains that McGill cannot join ANEQ this year because the Society cannot afford the membership fee: one dollar per student, although it can be negotiated down to 25c a head.

Late in September, Council mandated Fitch to draft a letter to Education Minister Jacques-Yves Morin, expressing opposition to differential fees. The document has only recently been drafted. Reed recently told the Daily the delay was due to a decision to work with the Committee Co-ordinating Student Services (CCSS), so that "we can do something a little more formal."

Currently, Fitch is collaborating with U of Montreal and CEGEP representatives to secure lower bus and metro fares for post-secondary students. The campaign promises to be a staid affair; Fitch told a Daily reporter that she does not favour action taken by U of M students in 1975 when they protested MUCTC fare hikes by jumping metro turnstiles.

Leadership on campus

The quality of leadership on campus was not called into question this term; rather, whether it is wanted or needed in the first place was questioned by the Engineering Faculty. Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) President Dave Simpson has interpreted the drafting of a Liquor Policy by the Students' Society as an infringement on the freedom of Faculties. At the University's request, StudSoc is drafting the policy in order to ensure that liquor sales

and consumption on campus are done legally. A tentative policy, as presented to Council, provides for the breweries to share the student market on campus based either on equal amounts or the actual market shares. EUS has an exclusivity contract with O'Keefe from which they reap many fringe benefits. StudSoc claims that a uniform Liquor Policy must be introduced on campus to protect the rights of all — one infringement could mean the end of all licensed events on campus. Simpson objects to the exclusion of the Faculties from the initial work done in drafting the Policy, as well as to the precedent the policy sets in "forcing the Faculties to do things."

Disinterest in StudSoc

The Students' Society Open Meeting of November 3 should have been the highlight of the term for the Councillors, who assembled to "strut and fret their hour upon the stage." Unfortunately, they had to play to an empty house. At one o'clock, when the meeting was due to start, only seven students and the StudSoc Exec were in the Ballroom. President Reed did some quick canvassing in the Union cafeteria, with little results. Eventually about 90 students, including 40 engineers (on hand to protest the Liquor Policy) gathered to meet their councillors.

Reed used the poor attendance to underline his hypothesis that StudSoc is "operating in a vacuum" and that the main problem facing the Council was knowing how to "represent students in the best way."

It has been suggested that the lack of attendance at the Open Meeting was an indirect gesture of confidence in StudSoc by the student body; the meeting was called as a formality and there was no crisis to discuss. Therefore, the Council must be

doing its job quietly and efficiently. Another theory is that councillors as well as students show disinterest in StudSoc gatherings.

Not all councillors attended the Council meetings on September 7 and 29, but there were quorums present. At the October 19 meeting, the third one in the school term, only ten councillors showed up. Because 11 councillors are needed to reach quorum, the meeting functioned as an executive meeting, as the whole executive was present. The meeting drafted resolutions but could not pass them for lack of quorum. When it was discovered that another councillor (who later claimed he had not received notification of the meeting) was in the building, he was persuaded to attend the last ten minutes of the meeting. The "drafted" councillor abstained from voting on the resolutions, but his presence made quorum. The necessity of resorting to constitutional loopholes underlined the lack of interest on the part of the still-green councillors.

The next meeting (November 16) saw the best turnout to date.

Legalities

Perhaps in recognition of the weaknesses of a constitution that lets its executive be elected by a group of twenty-two councillors, Council this term passed a resolution that calls for the gathering of suggestions for constitutional change from the student body. However, these resolutions will be sifted by three councillors who will "recommend specific recommendations for constitution amendments." According to VP Internal Fred McMahon, no briefs have been submitted yet.

Student events

To date, StudSoc's most visible efforts have been in the domain of money making and entertainment. Sadie's Tabagle was set up adjacent the Students' Society offices, and its eventual profits will go to the Society coffers.

Although it is illegal to have pinball machines within 200 metres of a school, StudSoc Exec Director Ron Lerman has secured a document from the City stating that pending renovations to meet Fire Department regulations, McGill will get a games room permit.

In the offing...

Incorporation of the Students' Society will take up a lot of Council's time next term. The Society wants to incorporate to gain limited liability, which will free councillors from personal responsibility when acting in the interests of the Students' Society, and will give the Students' Society the right to sue and be sued in its own name.



as one year comes to a close ...

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9, 1977 UNION CAFETERIA Last Day... open only 8 AM - 3 PM	SATURDAY DECEMBER 10, 1977 McGill ARTISAN EXHIBITION Last Day... Room 107/108 Students' Union	FRIDAY DECEMBER 16, 1977 GERTRUDE'S PUB Last Day... open from 4 PM - 2 PM	FRIDAY DECEMBER 23, 1977 SADIE'S Box Office & Tabagie Last Day...	FRIDAY DECEMBER 23, 1977 STUDENTS' UNION Last Day... closes at 12 noon
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another year opens ...

TUESDAY JANUARY 3, 1978 STUDENTS' UNION Reopens! 8 AM	TUESDAY JANUARY 3, 1978 SADIE'S Box Office & Tabagie Reopens! 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM	MONDAY-THURSDAY JANUARY 9-12, 1978 GERTRUDE'S PUB Reopens! 4 PM - 12 midnight	FRIDAY JANUARY 13, 1978 GERTRUDE'S PUB open from 4 PM - 2 AM	SATURDAY JANUARY 14, 1978 GERTRUDE'S PUB [closed]
MONDAY JANUARY 16, 1978 UNION CAFETERIA Reopens! 8 AM - 7 PM	MONDAY JANUARY 16, 1978 GERTRUDE'S PUB Begins Regular Hours	MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1978 SECOND- HAND BOOKSALE In the Students' Union	WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18, 1978 McGill DAILY publishes 1st single issue	MONDAY JANUARY 30, 1978 McGill DAILY begins publishing regular "daily" Issues

with

McGill Students' Society

wishing you times of *Peace*

Comment

Ho! Ho! Ho! INCO

The executives of The International Nickel Company (INCO) can relax a little now and have a Merry Christmas, knowing that the Canadian government will not interfere in the coming layoffs of 3500 men in Sudbury, Ontario and Thompson, Manitoba. Despite the urgent declarations of employment Minister Bud Cullen to discuss the layoffs with INCO and union officials, and platitudes such as "the layoffs represent a very serious situation" from Finance Minister Jean Chretien, INCO's freedom to act as it pleases, i.e. as a multinational, has not been challenged.

INCO officials claim that depressed sales and prices on the international market are the fundamental reasons behind the layoffs. Their latest report indicates more clearly in business terms what they consider must be done to improve their international position. "A sharp reduction in cash outlays of all kinds, including operating and capital expenditures is clearly essential, and will be accomplished in all areas." And so 3500 men representing some of those 'cash outlays' get the axe. It's good business.

In the past ten years, INCO has made profits of \$1.7 billion. However, its monopoly over the production of nickel has been steadily decreasing; it once produced 95% of the world's nickel, now it produces 40%. Worried at this slow decline in its monopoly status, and faced with the problem of having too much of its profit sitting in the bank, INCO embarked on new international projects in the 1960s and 70s, notably in Guatemala and Indonesia. Now in 1977 the Indonesian project is producing semi-refined nickel, which is then refined in Japan. This has given INCO a new market area as Japan had imposed tariffs on the refined nickel from Sudbury and Thompson. Production in Guatemala will begin in 1979.

Both of the projects in Indonesia and Guatemala were begun with the use of part of the \$1.7 billion profit that the mines in Sudbury and Thompson had produced. The complacency of the Trudeau government was aptly summed up by a union leader in Thompson. "We cannot understand how the government can allow the company to export the capital raised here to exploit the cheaper mining methods and labour in other countries." Damn it man, the answer is obvious. It's good business.

Efficiency has been a big reason behind INCO's success over the years. Since its incorporation in 1902, INCO has never failed to report a profit. Examples of how INCO goes about increasing its efficiency can be readily seen in Sudbury. Each day the 'Super stack' emits 3600 tons of sulphur dioxide into the air, coating among other things, laundry, windows, and lungs. Efficiency in the extraction process of the ore in Sudbury has been so successful that U.S. astronauts used the area (totally devastated and ecologically ruined) to practice moon-walking before the Apollo flights.

The non-committal, and therefore supportive stance of the federal government towards the INCO layoffs and the company's rampant multinational behaviour is at best an example of weak government, at worst, government complicity with big business. INCO's actions in the past years, and more recently with the layoffs in Sudbury and Thompson indicate that there may still exist a link between their 'good business' practices, and those of the founder of INCO 75 years ago — J.P. Morgan.

Stuart Carre

Letters

Death respects no statistics

To the Daily:

This letter is in reference to the one which appeared in the Nov. 30th issue of the Daily. The letter to which we are referring raised certain "objections" to statements made in an earlier article about Beate Klarsfeld, a Nazi Hunter.

It is difficult to know where to begin as we are still wondering how one person could manage to get so many facts wrong and distort so many others. It is quite amazing to say the least.

1) While it is true that 6 million Jews were slaughtered during WW11, we question Ms. Jones'

"fact" that 44 million non-Jews were killed as well. It would be more in agreement with all of the historians and history books to say that 6 million non-Jews were killed. (These figures do not consider the number of soldiers killed. Perhaps this was where the 44 million figure came from?)

2) We really don't understand why Lee Harvey Oswald should have received a medal for killing President Kennedy and we're also confused about what this has to do with the Israeli-Palestinian issue?

3) Ms. Jones refers to "Arafat's attacks on the people who have ruthlessly killed and terrorized his people". From this, one is led to believe that Arafat and guerillas have never given Israel any cause for aggression. Does

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TO TAKE
EXTRAORDINARY
MEASURES TO
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THE CLIMATE OF
TERRORISM
THAT EXISTED IN
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URS 12-77

Ms. Jones suggest that Palestinian guerilla attacks on Israel are alright, but that Israeli attacks on her enemies are not? 4) Israel does not intentionally attack refugee camps, as Ms. Jones would have us believe. But if the Palestinian guerillas insist on firing from areas where Palestinian refugee camps are located (and then move elsewhere) is this the fault of the Israelis? And what then does Ms. Jones have to say about guerilla attacks on Israeli villages and the murder of women and children? Is this permissible?

5) Ms. Jones asks "Whose land is Israel located on?" She answers: "Palestinian land". If Ms. Jones is willing to spend a little time reading her history books, she will see that the Jews inhabited the land thousands of years ago. When the Jews went to Palestine after the War, they were returning to their land. Before progressing on to our next point, it is important to mention that being pro-Israel, does not mean anti-Palestine. The Palestinian question is a valid one, one that must be solved if there is to be a lasting peace in the Middle East.

6) According to Ms. Jones, the Palestinians left their land to escape the terror of "Zionist terrorists". The truth is that they fled because it was promised to them that they would return when properly prepared "to push the Jews into the sea".

7) Ms. Jones claims that Beate Klarsfeld "doesn't know the difference between a race and religion" because she claims that the Jews are a race. Well, it's not Klarsfeld who is confused, it's Ms. Jones. The Jews are most definitely a race. We have a culture, a language, tradition, a history, and a religion. All of these things do not necessarily belong to a religion but they certainly belong to a race.

8) According to Ms. Jones, "Pure" Jews and "Pure" Arabs are phenotypically alike. This is a totally ridiculous statement since phenotype characteristics such as intelligence, social, emotional and personality characteristics are the result of extremely complex transactions between genetic and environ-

mental factors during the course of development. Only Hitler ever used the word "pure" in referring to a human being, when he referred to the "pure" Aryan race.

In closing, we would like to say to Ms. Jones: Don't fear for the lives of Israeli Jews. As a people we have survived through much in the past, so will we do so in the future, if we must.

Deborah Rubin
Ruth Posluszny

Tit for tat, and that is that

To the Daily:

In response to Bernard Fried's letter last Thursday condemning the Daily for not having consulted the Students' Council before making the decision to publish in French, three things:

1) The Students' Council is not the publisher of the Daily, the Students' Society is. This would mean that the Daily would have had to call a referendum to obtain the permission of the students to publish once a week in French. The President of the Society was nevertheless informed in June and never brought it up before Council during the summer.

2) When the editors of the Daily decided to try to publish one a week in French, to accommodate the francophone portion of the university and to promote understanding of Quebec culture among McGill anglo-

phones, it was May 1977. At that time, there were no students on campus. If the Daily were to publish in French, advertisers had to be informed and other arrangements had to be made that required a decision immediately. If reaction to the decision had been negative, the Daily would have surely stopped their Tuesday edition in French.

3) Furthermore, Mr. Fried, you as a councillor must realize that certain decisions must be taken when students are not around to vote on them. For example, when the Students' Council lobbied the University to raise the student activity fee to \$30 without holding a referendum. An increase from \$24 to \$30 in the activity fee is clearly a decision that has to be brought to referendum, but student councillors informed us that in order to function the Society needs the increased revenue and did not have time to hold the referendum before activity fees were collected.

As for your reference to a Pot photo being used in the Daily, a confusion in our typesetting shop was the reason behind that. The editors of the Daily met with the photographer and reached a friendly agreement. By the way, the Daily apologized publicly for the mistake.

As for your reference to a Daily staffer being rude to an engineer, I agree with you. Rudeness has no place anywhere. The changing of a word continued on page 16

McGill Daily

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Daniel Boyer
MANAGING EDITOR: Jennifer Robinson

NEWS EDITORS: Marc Cassini
Ron Doyle
Ellen McKeough

EDITOR, FRENCH EDITION: Marie Polrier
PHOTO EDITORS: Gilbert Cerat
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Education commission:

Finding a place for universities in Quebec

by Jennifer Robinson

Education in Quebec has undergone radical changes in the past fifteen years. In 1963, the Ministry of Education was established to relieve the Church of its control over the educational system and received top budgetary priority. Three new universities, the University of Sherbrooke, Sir George Williams and the University of Quebec — the latter with a network of campuses across the province — were created. Between 1967 and 1970, 34 General and Vocational Colleges (CEGEPs) were established, replacing the church-owned classical colleges.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Parent-Royal Commission, the school curriculum has been radically revised. Technical and scientific training, and programmes in both public and business administration, have been given much greater priority. Today, 51 institutions offer over 100 programmes to some 115,000 students. Only ten years ago, there were but 35,000 students at the college level, with some thirty options offered.

Despite great strides, there are problems: discontent with programmes, numerous lengthy strikes at both levels of post-secondary education, and much student contestation on educational, financial as well as political issues.

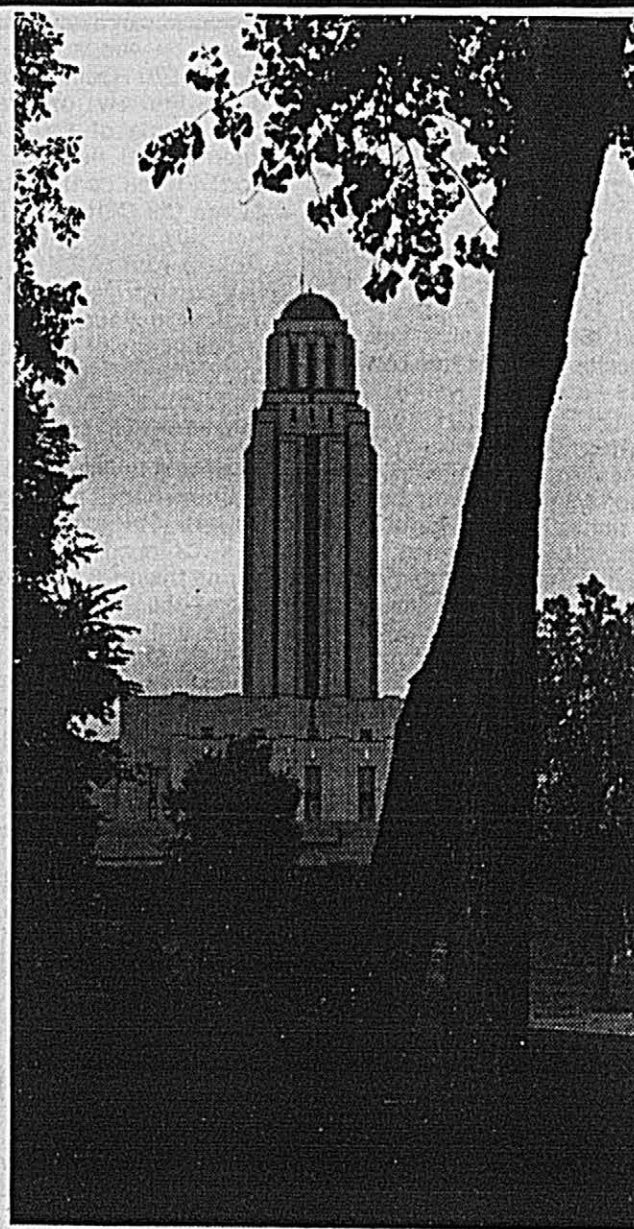
Last summer, Education Minister Jacques-Yvan Morin announced the government's intention to carry out a study on higher education. The Commission on

Universities was created on July 20, 1977 to study problems related to the changing nature and rapid growth of universities over the past fifteen years. The orientation of universities for the future is the focus of the study designed to enable the government to evaluate the present situation and take measures to render universities more efficient and more useful to society.

Pierre Angers, president of the Commission on Universities explained in a recent interview with MEQ News the three areas of research. "Three study groups, of at least four members each, have been set up. Each group is responsible for the study of one of the following themes: the university and Quebec society, the organization of university institutions, and the training and re-training of teachers.

"First of all, the commission will examine the signs which point the way to the future. These will then have to be defined and analyzed so as to limit the possibilities, to elucidate the problems, to formulate hypotheses and to indicate certain possible solutions.

"One study group will deal especially with the social functions of higher education and the university's responsibilities. The university's place and role in society and their inter-relationship will also be studied. Other questions include democratization of the university and the relations between the university and the work-force and the university and public



opinion. The university's mission will also be brought up to date.

"There are at least three facets to the theme of the organization of the university system. The first is the role of the State with respect to the university network. The second is that of the co-ordination and planning of the whole of the multiple and diversified university network in Quebec. A third facet is that of the universities' internal management.

"And finally, a special theme will be studied: the universities' role in the training and retraining of teachers, especially those at the pre-school, elementary and secondary levels. We will have to see to what extent teacher training can and should be integrated into university life, given the objectives of elementary and secondary teaching."

With a budget of \$600,000 for a period of 18 months of research, public consultation and consultation with the universities themselves, the Commission was mandated to submit a preliminary report by December 1. Each committee reported on its activities and outlined its methodology in gathering the information needed to complete their mandates.

According to Angers, the "study entails making suggestions to Quebecers regarding the measures which should be taken in order to improve the quality of university activities." Jacques-Yvan Morin, in a joint press conference with Camille Laurin, Minister of State for Cultural Development said that "the commission's role was to show the government and the universities the way to the decisions which need to be made."

Members of the four committees are drawn from Quebec universities and include two student representatives. André Rémillard, last year's Secrétaire-général of the provincial student association ANEQ will sit on the University and Quebec Society Committee. Louis Poirier, an oceanography student of the U of Q at Rimouski, will participate in the Organization of University Systems Committee.

Two McGill representatives were chosen. Professor Richard Salisbury is on the Co-ordination Committee, while Louise Marcil Lacoste, McGill research associate, was chosen as president of the Training and Re-training of Teachers Committee.



The Commission on Universities will recommend to the Minister of Education in the spring of 1979, measures to be taken to improve the quality of university education and activities. One concern of the Commission is adult education and the possibility of integrating both systems, adult and youth into the same structures.

Today

McGill Department of English presents:

"Two Plays for Dancers" by W.B. Yeats, today, tomorrow and Saturday, 8 pm, Morrice Hall 106. Admission free.

Faculty of Music free concerts: Pollack Concert Hall 8:30 pm: McGill Faculty Choir, dir: Estelle Jorgensen. Works by Palestrina, Glarum, Leisring, Thompson, Holman, Schubert, Brahms. Recital Room C209 1 pm: Guy Trafficante, violin, student of Mauricio Fuks accompanied by Carmen Picard, piano. Beethoven Violin Concerto.

Art auction: You are cordially invited to attend an AUCTION of original paintings, prints and drawings donated to Amnesty Interna-

tional by the artists. Galerie Media, 970 Rachel Street East, 8 pm. Preview: on premises 5 pm to time of sale. Amnesty International needs your support! Please participate!

Sigma Chi Christmas Basket: Help us help the needy in Montreal so that they too can have a happy holiday season. Just drop your canned or dry goods in any of the receptacles on campus (e.g. the Arts Building or Leacock) any day this week. Thanks.

Apartheid in South Africa: Trofomo Sono, president of the Soweto Students Representative Council in June 1976 during the uprising and a member of the Pan-Africanist Congress will speak on the situation in South Africa and the people's resistance. Today in the Union 310 at noon. Sponsored by the McGill Circle of the Canadian Communist League (Marxist-Leninist).

Tomorrow

Anthropology Students and Anthropology Department: Christmas Tea. Bring some of your Christmas home-baked goodies to share and celebrate the yuletide season and end of term. Tea is to be held 4 pm - 6 pm, L738.

Economics Stud's: Don't forget the Stud. - Prof. Dept. CHRISTMAS PARTY. Eggnog and other refreshments will be there. It starts around 3 pm on the 8th floor of Leacock. The low-low stud. entry cost is \$1.50. The ESA wishes you all a successful exam period and a much merrier Christmas.

Two Plays for Dancers: The McGill English Dept. presents two productions by W.B. Yeats; DREAMING OF THE BONES and FULL MOON IN MARCH. Shows begin tonight and tomorrow at 8 pm in Morrice Hall 106. Admission is

free and tickets can be picked up in Arts 155.

Sigma Chi Christmas Basket: Help us help the needy in Montreal so that they too can have a happy holiday season. Just drop your canned or dry goods in any of the receptacles on campus (e.g. the Arts Building or Leacock) any day this week. Thanks.

Centre for Developing-Area Studies:

Workshop No. 12: "Inequality and Collectiveness: The Transformation of Nassal Pastoralism." Speaker is Prof. John Galaty of McGill Anthropology. 12:15 pm, 3437 Peel St. (lounge). CDAS workshops will resume in Jan. We hope to see you then. Happy holidays!

Intramurals:

5:15 Management Magnates vs. W.W. 5:50 Clinic for all. All league activities will resume in second term. First game night is Jan. 25.

Faculty of Music free concerts: Pollack Concert Hall, 8:30 pm. McGill Symphony Orchestra, Uri Mayer, conductor, Viviane Roberge, violinist. Works by Schoss, Schostakovich, Bruch.

MONDAY, DEC. 12

Faculty of Music free concerts: Pollack Concert Hall, 8:30 pm: Brass Choir and French Horn Ensemble, dir: Thomas Kenny. "Christmas in Brass." Works by Anderson, Wagner, Handel. Mueller, Bach, Tchaikovsky & others. Recital Room C209 4 pm: Voice Recital, works by Granados, Lottl, Mozart, Schumann.

TUESDAY, DEC. 13

Faculty of Music free concerts: Pollack Concert Hall 1 pm: Student Soloists' recital, piano, violin, flute. Works by Chopin, continued on page 16

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Differential fees:

A bitter taste of the future

by Jennifer Robinson

With the prospect of differential fees for foreign students facing Quebec campuses next September, there is a noticeable absence of organized pressure on university and government authorities by the province's student groups.

Student Services at McGill however, has prepared a document condemning two-tier fees. The document states that the implementation of differential fees for visa students would be purely a political decision since there is no economic advantage to indexed tuition fees.

The Committee for the Coordination of Student Services as well as the Students' Society, which recently adopted a similar position, will bring the matter before the university Senate in the near future.

This is the first indication that students at McGill are moving towards defending visa students against the PQ's rumoured plans to implement the fees next September.

Earlier this year, a Concordia official leaked the news that the PQ government had prepared a document recommending the imposition of two-tier fees, recommendations which coincided with an article in the PQ's educational platform. Two provinces established indexed tuition fees last September. Both the Ontario and Alberta governments, claiming that visa students are an unfair burden to the Canadian taxpayer, raised tuition fees for visa students by \$900 in Ontario and \$300 in Alberta.

Initially, affected universities claimed they would have no part in discrimination against visa students and some even offered to subsidize visiting students, who make up only 8% of the Canadian population.

However, reports from Ontario and Alberta indicate that universities are now beginning to rethink their commitment. The University of Toronto, for example, has reversed its position from "charging different fees to different students has no place in the life of an academic institution because it is discriminatory, potentially racist and academically indefensible" to currently claiming that the University has no choice in the matter.

The financial crunch

Universities faced with inflation, budget cutbacks and falling enrolment and increasing pressure from governments determined not to change their position, are forced to put aside this ideology of universal education and adopt a cost-benefit attitude toward visa students. U of T claims that it is not in a position to absorb the annual half million dollar loss even if the sum represents only a small portion of the entire university budget.

The main pro-differential fee argument, and the claim put forth by the PQ, is that Canadian students pay for education through taxes, but foreign students do not. They should thus be charged more for the education they receive in Canada.

But according to a report published by the Canadian Bureau for International Education, foreign students are not an economic burden on Canadian taxpayers because "the expenditure of money by the Canadian taxpayer, through grants to institutions, is roughly equal to the amount of money imported into Canada by incoming students... This foreign student money would not otherwise find its way into the economy". The report, illustrating that foreign students pay for themselves, goes on to explain that "the educational system could not do without the government funds they receive as a result of their foreign student population. Faculty and staff must still be paid and the physical plant must be kept up, even if there are fewer students. These costs cannot be cut without a major restructuring of the Canadian educational system."

Third Worldists take the lead

Foreign student enrollment has almost doubled in the last four years. However, the report claims that it is only picking up the slack in Canadian enrollment. "In fact, with the numbers of Canadian students decreasing because of demographic changes, one could agree that foreign students are needed to fill

empty places and to maintain employment at the post secondary level".

What's behind the move

If the implementation of differential fees makes no substantial contribution to the economy, and can only accelerate declining enrolment in Canadian universities (a 20% drop in foreign student enrollment was noted in Ontario in September), why are provincial governments moving toward the two-tier system?

The presence of foreign students in Canada assists in the maintenance of one of the most costly education systems in the world. But this costly enterprise is currently producing more Canadian students than today's job market can absorb. Only

one of every four university graduates finds work in their field.

Provincial governments must find ways to cut costs. They are not interested in encouraging more young Canadians to fill spaces caused by the decrease in Canadian and foreign enrolment — there are already too many unemployed university graduates in Canada.

In a few years, when enrollment is too low to justify Canada's education system, we will begin to see the real cutbacks in post-secondary education.

Already, McGill Arts and Science faculties are not filling vacancies, and although the Deans of these faculties hope they will not be forced to lay off employees, that measure might become a necessity in the near future.

McGill Research:

Breeding meatier calves

by David Glass

The latest available figures show that \$18½ million worth of private and public endowments were bestowed on McGill for research in a myriad of fields. The Canadian government was responsible for \$11 million of that figure. Quebec contributed only \$1.5 million, which is not surprising considering the fact that research is presently a Federal domain, something which provinces are contesting.

The breakdown of the \$18½ million figure offers a few surprises. \$123,000 was spent on the Philosophy department, with \$35,000 going to a report on the "Platonic Tradition in the middle ages of the Renaissance." In agriculture, \$1,355,000 was granted, the majority of which went to projects investigating more efficient ways of producing and developing good strains of produce, which includes both livestock and vegetables.

For example, \$39,000 was given to a project entitled "Puberty, Superovulation, and Embryo Transfer". Success in such areas would mean a much cheaper way of producing excellent livestock. For instance, if farmers had cows which gave birth to very strong, meaty calves it would be worthwhile if they could keep taking out the embryos and putting them in cows which didn't produce such prime offspring.

In this way, they could keep breeding their good cows all year long, producing lots of offspring every year instead of just one. This process could be further enhanced by superovulation, causing the cow to give birth to more than the usual number of embryos per year, and thus increase the number of calves.

Engineering received \$2,150,000 with Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical getting more than \$350,000 each. One Architecture project, on "Appropriate Building and Energy Systems for Quebec Indian Communities" got \$46,683. Engineering was second only to the Faculty of Medicine in amount of money received. The main concern in research seems to be to make people last longer and live better.

The \$10 million that Medicine received was distributed fairly evenly; 9 departments got about half a million dollars each. Neurology and Biochemistry were first and second — Neurology got \$1,085,000 and Biochemistry received \$663,000. The biochemistry projects are diverse, with research being done on such things as opiates and its effects, lipoprotein metabolism. \$77,000 was granted to projects dealing with DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid, the genetic material on which cell function is coded) research.

These particular projects are not on the controversial gene-splicing technique, but deal rather with DNA's primary structure and the initiation site of transcription. Transcription is a process in the cell where the code for protein synthesis is transferred from the DNA to other parts of the cell which then carry out the DNA's instructions for the composition

of proteins. This type of research is especially important since most genetic and hereditary diseases can ultimately be traced to DNA. Understanding of this substance would be very valuable to treatment of the diseases.

Before the cancer research unit closed, \$635,000 was devoted to it, with projects on tumour immunity, the effects of radiotherapy, and bladder cancer among the research. The importance of these experiments is self-apparent. According to Dean Freedman, the Cancer Unit will reopen in late January, providing it is given appropriate funding.

Research that was being done at the neurological institute is also interesting. The Muscular Dystrophy Association granted \$10,000 for research on muscle disease. Other topics include brain trauma, strokes, neurosurgery, lesions, and diseases of the spinal cord.

Studies in pulmonary (heart) adaptation before birth and childhood diseases, as well as experiments into neonatal liver studies, mutant or changed

continued on page 15



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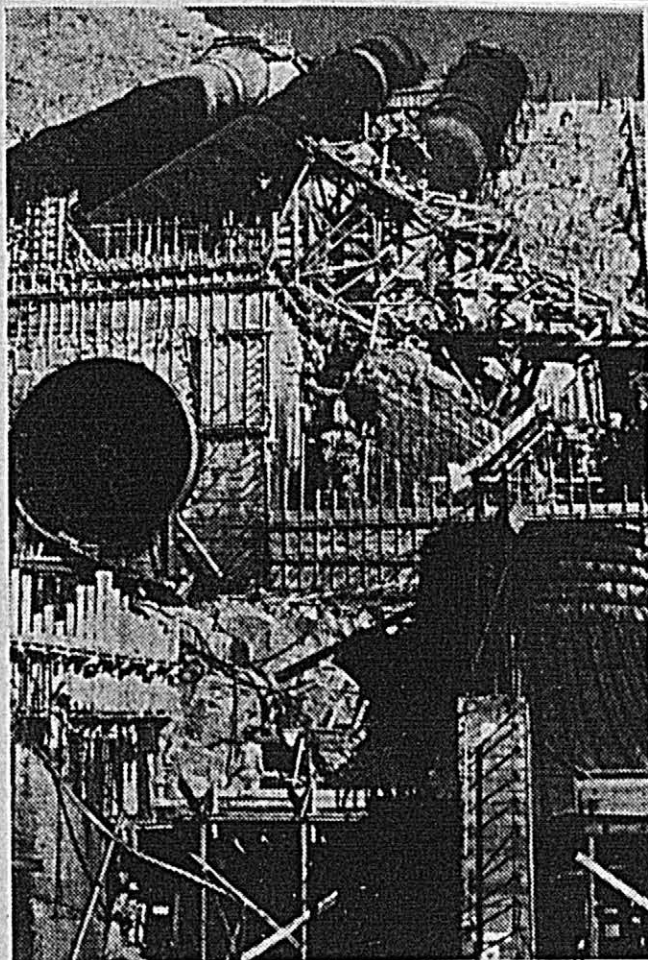
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The PQ government will continue to rely on hydro-electric power until at least 1985, hoping to cash in on the experience or other countries' choices of alternative energy sources and the expected technological improvements in alternative sources such as solar, thermal, and nuclear energy.

Hydro-Quebec stays with hydraulic power

by Andrew J. Porter

In Hydro-Québec's scramble to satisfy Québec's growing energy consumption, it will be borrowing more than 2 billion dollars in 1978.

The means with which Hydro-Québec will be meeting the province's doubling in demand for electricity is the grandiose James Bay hydro-electric project.

Termed the key to the "political, economic and social stability" of the province by the Bourassa government, the project should double Québec's hydro-electric capacity, with a cost of about \$2,700 per Quebecer.

In deciding to put all its eggs in one basket rather than go the nuclear & thermal routes like other provinces, Québec will be faced with the fact that James Bay will only supply its energy needs up to 1985. The PQ government is hoping that by delaying its entry into nuclear production until after James Bay's completion, it can learn from other countries' errors in nuclear technology.

When Québec eventually decided on its method to supply electricity, it had to consider what it had in alternate sources of energy. Beside the hydraulic

energy, possible choices were thermal, solar and nuclear power. In the first case, Québec really did not have the thermal combustibles to make any production worthwhile. Solar and wind power generation were, and still are, alternative sources; but Québec lacks in the sufficient concentrations to make any production feasible.

Wind power unfeasible

Thus, the real debate was over the development of hydraulic or nuclear power. When Québec's position was made known — that is that it would develop James Bay — the Bourassa government had made no preliminary studies about the feasibility of the project. When announced, the project was nothing other than a political ploy to boost Bourassa's support after his government's obvious weakness in handling the 1970 October Crisis.

While the Bourassa government's choice to build the expensive James Bay project was unsustainable, it has regained some credibility — not because of any technocratic brilliance, but rather due to some external changes.

The formation of the Canadian government's uranium cartel has boosted the price per pound of nuclear raw materials over 400% in the past 3 years.

Thus, through no fault of their own, the successive Quebec governments have had their key to social, economic and political stability given a competitive edge.

Uranium prices shoot up

Québec remains for the time being free from the buying competition for uranium production, of which over 70% of the raw material and technical expertise would have to be imported.

Many nuclear experts foresee a continued upward trend of uranium prices. Even with the possibility of mining cheap uranium off the ocean's floor, the environmental protection costs will still make James Bay look competitive. The James Bay project's environmental costs added up to about \$10 million — this figure is very minimal in comparison to the safety procedures needed in nuclear reactors. Furthermore, the nuclear experts are left with the problems of what to do with the nuclear wastes. It is felt that ultimately, there will be no choice but to project nuclear wastes into space — toward the sun. This inevitable cost is, as experts say, going to have a radical effect on the pricing of nuclear energy.

Even without developing high cost, potentially insecure nuclear energy, Québec's energy future does look good. Researchers at the Alcan generating station in the Lac St. Jean area have developed a new method of installing generators, which will be able to boost production from some dams over 30%. Hydro-Québec is already planning to use this new generating method, which could be installed at Manic 5 — the dam which supplies almost 3/4 of Montréal's electricity.

Hydro can borrow money

Hydro-Québec's borrowing costs have also toned down, despite the present woes of the Canadian dollar. Just over a year ago, Hydro-Québec paid as much as 10 1/4% interest on a long-term loan of one billion dollars. Although some PQ supporters like to think it was the election in November 1976, world borrowing conditions have enabled Hydro-Québec to borrow for interest rates as low as 5 3/4% over the past year.

All things considered, by 1985 Québec should be in an even better position to pick the best alternative in supplying its energy needs.

Present experiments in solar, nuclear and thermal technology can only improve the technologies for those who have been lucky enough to have lasting surpluses.

MacDonald Building potentially explosive

by Janet Stewart

One problem often expressed about laboratory work is that corners are cut either to save time or money — economy which can sometimes have disastrous effects.

Two accidents this year in a mechanical engineering laboratory are a cause for concern among engineering students who work in the MacDonald building.

On August 19, a researcher forced a defective safety cap on a cylinder causing a leak of propylene gas in the Gas Dynamics lab, says a report prepared by the chief of security. The Fire department was called in and the building evacuated. Firemen opened windows to air the building and took the cylinder outside where remaining gas dispersed with no further threat of explosion.

Propylene gas is explosive and can be set off most easily in a mixture of about four per cent gas and the rest air. "Any spark, like static from a carpet, from electrical wiring or a cigarette could set it off under certain conditions" says Security Chief Rostaing.

"Any spark, like static from a carpet, from electrical wiring or a cigarette could set it off under certain conditions" says Security Chief Rostaing.

Engineering students who understood the danger at the time of the incident say that although the building was evacuated, people were standing right in front of the windows outside the lab. The windows would have been the first thing to go in the case of an explosion, or even if the gas caught fire.

The possible consequences of such a leak range from nothing to a serious explosion, depending on the conditions. But last summer's incident demonstrates that people who work where potentially dangerous materials are being used at McGill have very little idea what to do when the fire alarm sounds. In fact, people often ignore fire alarms because of the numerous false alarms that have been sounded.

November 23 marked the date of another accident in the same lab; but this one wasn't reported. One

researcher claimed it involved a TNT charge exploded in a steel tube — the regular procedure in detonation experiments. Three contradictory versions of the incident were reported by people who work in the lab to a Daily reporter but few other people interviewed about both incidents were willing to be quoted or named.

Existing hazards and measures taken to prevent accidents should be reported to the McGill community. Most members of the community would be surprised to learn that experimentation with the detonation of gases is being done at McGill.

In many cases security measures are lagging behind the sophistication of the research being done at McGill. In an attempt to solve part of this problem, Rostaing is presently working on safety measures. However he believes a lot of it has to do with common sense.



PQ backbenchers embarrass ministers

by Daniel Boyer

Many things have changed in the National Assembly within the past year. Of the 71 PQ MNAs, barely fifteen had any parliamentary experience. However, save for a handful, most PQ deputies are old party militants and, for many years, had been attending organizational meetings, "assemblées de cuisines" and done door to door work.

As a consequence, cabinet ministers have complained that queries from PQ MNA's sometimes prove more embarrassing than questions from the official opposition.

Party finances

Over the past eight years, the Parti Québécois has succeeded in financing itself directly from its membership. This financing organization is without precedent in North-American political history. While it was an opposition party, the PQ often denounced the traditional financing means of the "old" parties and especially their "caisses électorales occultes".

Law Two provides strict ground rules for party financing and the Liberal opposition strongly opposed the Bill on the grounds that it was an infringement on "democracy". The Liberal Party had trouble adapting itself to the new rules which rely on popular financing, a new thing to Liberals.

Law Two bans political donations to parties by corporations or unions and limits individual contributions to \$3000 a year.

Justice

The first action taken by the new justice minister, Marc André Bédard, was the dropping of all remaining

charges against Dr Henry Morgentaler, an abortionist and crusader for women's rights. Bédard also called on the federal justice department to consider changes to existing abortion laws.

Bédard also abolished the patronage-laden lists of preferred lawyers and notaries for his ministry's work, replacing them with 60 lawyers and 10 notaries hired as civil servants. All government agencies were to follow suit.

During the spring, the justice minister announced the cancellation of roughly 8000 charges against the CSN and the CEQ laid by the Bourassa government during past contract disputes.

National Assembly standings

	1976	1973
Parti Québécois	71	6
Liberal	26	102
Union Nationale	11	-
PNP	1	-
Créditistes	1	2

Drugs to senior citizens

Bill 37, extending free prescription drugs to people over 65 became law this July. With its benefits becoming effective in early October, this piece of legislation was billed as a "major achievement" by Premier Lévesque.

Law 101

The French Language Charter is, by far, the cornerstone of PQ legislation of this past year. When the minister of state for cultural development, Camil Laurin presented his White Paper on Language in April, it triggered the third major language debate in Québec since 1969. Bill 101 became law on August 26 and aims at giving its rightful place to the French language in Quebec. The PQ happily points out that the charter gives a fairer deal to its minority than francophones get in the rest of Canada.

The Charter was supported by francophone Quebecers and squarely rejected by anglophones and immigrants. Whereas Laws 63 and 22 merely antagonised all segments of the Quebec population, Law 101 took a clear-cut position favoring the preponderance of French in Quebec.

The Charter makes French the official language of the courts and legislature and of work. Firms with 50 or more employees must undertake a gradual programme of "francization" or face hefty fines.

Startling to English-Canadians is the provision limiting English schooling to children with at least one parent who attended English elementary school or with an older brother or sister enrolled in an English school.

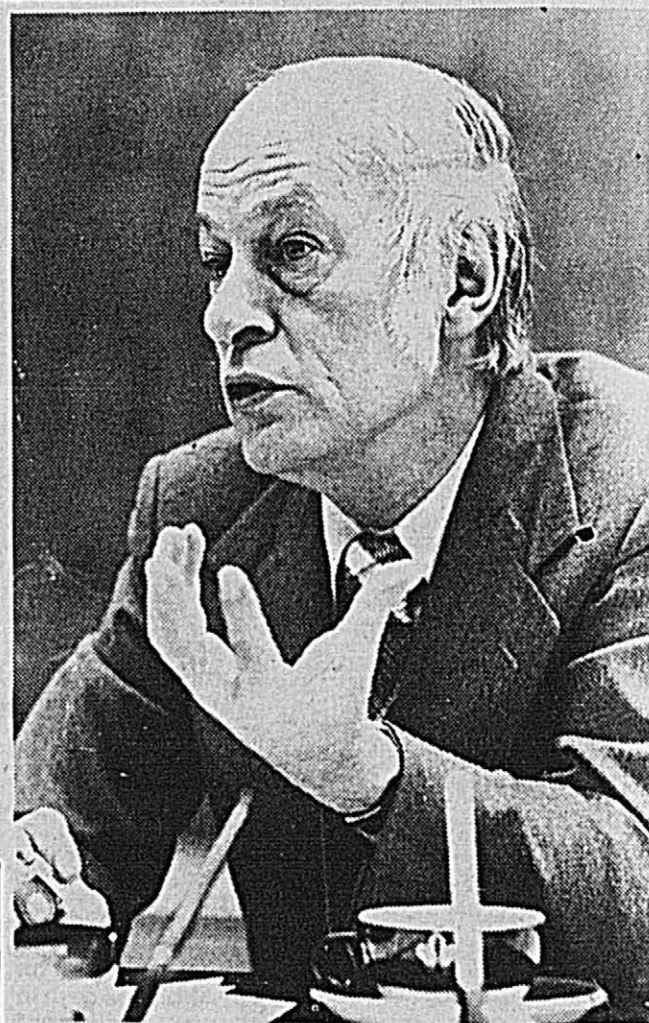
Anti-scab bill

Among legislation currently being debated is Bill 45, the anti-scab law. The Bill aims at outlawing the use of strike-breakers and favoring the unionization of Quebec workers. The Rand formula would be imposed on union membership and secret balloting would be guaranteed both in strike votes and in the election of union officers.

Unions have stated that the law was a valid first step, however the local entrepreneurs have opposed the law saying that it would be a fatal blow to small and medium enterprises in Quebec, ill-equipped to deal with a strong union movement.

Car insurance proposed

The Quebec Bar Association has voiced its disapproval of the car insurance reform because it introduces "no fault" to physical injuries resulting



from car accidents, thus heftily cutting into lawyers' practices. Material damages would remain in the hands of private industry and the State would pay claims based on physical injury by levying higher licencing fees.

The referendum

The PQ government tabled a White Paper on referendum which would require all who wish to campaign in the debate to join a unified committee. These committees would, in effect, become central organization and there would be one for each option on the ballot.

A campaign lasting from 35 to 60 days would ensue supervised by each central organization and Bill 2 provisions on financing would be applied, thus limiting the financial input to three sources: the provincial government, Quebec provincial parties and individuals with their names on the voter's list, thus

The rise of the PQ

	1976	1973	1970
PQ	1,275,335 (40%)	847,809 (30%)	662,404 (23%)
Lib	1,076,233 (34%)	1,632,734 (55%)	1,304,341 (45%)
UN	590,841 (19%)	146,209 (5%)	564,544 (20%)
PNP	64,556 (2%)	-	-
Cred	156,786 (5%)	294,706 (10%)	321,370 (12%)

excluding financial participation by firms or individuals outside Quebec.

Liberal spokespeople have charged that the Bill limits "freedom of association" and favours separatists. House leader Robert Burns, the minister in charge of the Bill stated that the referendum would not take place before the spring of 1979.

Despite a lot of positive legislation, the PQ falls short of a lot of expectations. The threat of crisis continually loomed over the government has created an economic situation which led to the highest unemployment rate since the War.

Despite all the popular feelings he evokes among French-speaking Quebecers, Lévesque has not addressed that sector of the population even once. He has gone to New York twice, received the Legion d'honneur in Paris and even appeared on TV with English parents but he still has to seriously set out his goals to his constituency. His detractors accuse him of creating uncertainty; yet he still has to declare himself. As long as the government fails to take a clear stance, it will lose out.

Nov 15: The aftermath

Political observers and newspapers across Canada saw the results of the Québec election as a vote for the PQ's promise of a sound, honest government rather than a vote for separatism. They echoed Trudeau's words on November 15 that "the PQ had been granted a mandate to form a provincial government and not to separate".

However, reactions from Europe and the US proved less homogeneous.

In a three page spread on the PQ's victory, the French daily *Le Monde* said "One may have confidence in the moderation and obstinacy of M. Lévesque to make possible and viable the birth of this singular phenomenon: The accession to independence of a modern society right in the middle of the North-American continent." The paper added "sound government, however, comes before changing the course of history."

The *London Times* was the only British paper to give prominence to the Québec election story. An editorial entitled "A real threat to Canada" said that the PQ victory "must inject new urgency to the prospect of a confrontation between Quebec and Canada." The *Times* added that a pullout of capital and the resultant unemployment would give Lévesque "The needful scapegoat in Anglo-Saxon capitalism and confederation."

Hundreds of American papers carried an *Associated Press* story which stressed the interpretation of the Québec election results as being an indication that separatism would be defeated in the referendum. The *Washington-Post* said November 18 that the PQ victory would have an effect on Canada-US relations and the *New York Times* said Quebec voters were opposed to Bourassa's liberal government and did not support separatism.

Students face bleak existence

by Jennifer Robinson

[based on an article by Robert Chodos and the McGill Daily]

"The university is well structured, well tooled, to turn out people with all the sharp edges worn off, the well rounded person. The university is well equipped to turn out that sort of person, and this means that the best among the people who enter must for four years wander aimlessly much of the time questioning why they are on campus at all, doubting whether there is any point in what they are doing, and looking toward a very bleak existence afterward in a game in which all of the rules have been made up, which one cannot really amend."

Setting the stage

Students at the University of California at Berkeley in 1964 were acting together on issues that concerned them as students — the right to distribute political literature on campus, supporting blacks' right to vote in Mississippi, demonstrating in the ban-the-bomb movement. Students across the continent began to voice their discontent with the society for which they were being trained.

Although less militant, 1964 proved to be an eventful year for Quebec campuses as well. The francophone universities of the province withdrew from the Canadian Union of Students (CUS) in September to form their own union, one based on a student syndicalism philosophy, imported from France.

This understanding not only presented the association as a grouping actively defending student interests, but went further to define the student as a young intellectual engaged in a productive social process called education. CUS, at that time was involved in exchanges, student tours, and other equally apolitical activities.

Although education was a provincial domain, the McGill student felt little or no allegiance with the new francophone philosophy and followed the American lead of anti-Viet Nam war protests and the like. The English student, after all, enjoyed ample education facilities whereas the growing francophone student population was anticipating space shortages in their own province.

Unlike most Quebec students, McGill students were drawn from a very different segment of society — class and national divisions roughly coincided in Quebec. This case was demonstrated in 1963 when McGill students opted not to participate in a march on Quebec to pressure Liberal Premier Jean Lesage into fulfilling his election promise of free education. The Students' Society sent a telegram instead.

Activism at McGill

Activism at McGill in the middle sixties could be characterized as the struggle of the old school of the student politician, clutching the aged ideals of school spirit — a sort of institutional corporatism that suppressed criticism of the fundamentals of education. Pitted against him (and it was always a him) were students caught up in liberal curiosity and a questioning attitude toward the classical university's archaic structures.

Student mobilization at McGill was a very different sort of activism from that of francophone students. The demands of the greater student body at McGill were the demands of every other North American university in the sixties — opening of structures, democratization of university and responsibility and autonomy for students.

In March 1965, McGill students protested a fee increase but were finally swayed by the administration's argument that the increase was not its fault, but the government's. By September the issue was forgotten.

Daily vs Council

It was the following year that the now traditional yearly Daily-Council battle began. More and more, the Students' Council was attracting liberal and conservative future doctors and lawyers, all anxious to pad their portfolios to guarantee their futures, while the Daily became the rallying point for McGill's embryonic left. Space devoted to traditional campus activities such as Blood Drive and Winter Carnival suffered correspondingly. Attacks on the new Daily, as on other aspects of the politicization of student affairs, were two-headed: on the one hand, it was

judged that positions the Daily took served 'extreme' political purposes, did not have the support of the majority of the campus and were wrong; on the other hand, the right of the student-funded Daily to take any political position was challenged. In 1966, Daily editor Sandy Gage was fired for printing an article connecting a McGill professor to Viet Nam war research. Although students disagreed with Gage's actions, "freedom of the press" was the issue at successive open meetings and Gage was eventually reinstated.

Internal conflicts within the Students' Society were soon pushed to the wayside — temporarily — as students began discussing the implications of McGill's possible membership in UGEQ, the provincial student union. The push to adhere came jointly from the Daily and from campaigning of the newly-formed Students' for a Democratic University (SDU). Referendums were held and reheld but McGill's participation in UGEQ was close to nil.

Intramural reforms

McGill students were becoming increasingly intolerant of the Administration and their refusal to allow student input in department and faculty decisions. Students demanded representation on the university Senate and only after numerous demonstrations, one in which police were called in resulting in beatings and arrests, did the Senate decide to open its meetings and restructure its membership to include more faculty members and student representatives.

Department reform was another issue which mustered student activism. Political Science students staged a bitter strike to gain the right to be represented on department committees — a right that today is taken all too lightly.

In some departments, such as Sociology and English, some form of parity was achieved with little more than a polite struggle; but during the Political Science strike and occupation, faculty members were forced out into the open. Political scientists, it turned out, were unable to handle a real political situation.

Political science at McGill was tried and found wanting (as it still is today); in particular, it was found to be dominated by one ideology (as it is today in the aftermath of systematic purges of anyone who deviated from this ideology).

In contrast to the university, which students felt perpetuated the status quo, students proposed a critical university — not one withdrawn from society, since that was neither possible nor desirable, but one seeking actively to change a repressive and exploitative social system.

By 1968, Quebec francophone students were demanding adequate space in francophone universities and turned to McGill in 1969. 10,000 demonstrators marched to demand McGill's transformation into a French-language university. This was perhaps the turning point where it became evident that McGill students had little in common with francophone students. Their goals, their methods, their aspirations, their politics, all were worlds apart.

What was becoming apparent were the limits imposed on the McGill student movement by its nature. The situation was becoming too extreme for dabblers in leftist politics, who realizing their social roots, fled into the arms of moderate student leaders. For most students, supporting issues that went beyond the scope of intramural reform was too extreme. The francophone student movement had its problems also. Later that year, UGEQ collapsed, leaving Quebec students without a viable central student union until 1974, when ANEQ was born from the loans and bursaries struggle.

The quiet seventies

The McGill Students' Society in the early seventies, settled down considerably, becoming more and more trapped in its own bureaucracy and hampered with the financial burden of the upkeep of the university-owned University Centre. To keep them occupied, student councillors and Daily editors waged battle, with repeated attacks and counter attacks because of differing ideologies.

continued on page 15



By 1968, Quebec francophone students were demanding adequate space in francophone universities and turned to McGill in 1969. Ten thousand demonstrators marched to demand McGill's transformation into a French language university.

Social Work Student Council
is hosting a

Christmas Party

on Friday Dec. 9th 1977 at 8:30 pm. Social Work students, faculty members and friends are invited. Dancing and refreshments. Located on the first floor of Wilson Hall. B.Y.O.B.

WINTER CARNIVAL '78

For this year's Winter Carnival, McGill has invited the "Bonhomme Carnival" to get things underway on February 1st with the Opening Day Parade starting at the Ice Castle and ending the day with a Wine and Cheese. He will be around until February 11th to witness the other events that have been planned such as the Kraunenbrau Crawl, the Gross-Out Contest, the Scavenger Hunt and the crowning of Carnival King and Queen.

For all of you who feel the need to escape the pressure of school, we are offering a variety of trips: a day at the Quebec Winter Carnival, and Cross Country and Downhill ski excursions. For those unable to attend these trips, there will be plenty of other activities planned on campus: Bavarian Night, Irish Pub Night, and Jazz Night to keep you busy. This is a small sample of what is planned; wherever your preferences lie, there will be something to satisfy your cravings.

For more information you can call 392-8977 or come to room 406 in the Union.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

TODAY from
11:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Fruit Salad
Roast Turkey
Stuffing
Giblet Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Buttered Green Peas
Tossed Green Salad
Fruit Cake
Tea, Coffee, or Milk

\$2.99

Cafeteria Closing Sat. Dec. 9 at 2:30 pm
Will reopen Mon. Jan. 16 Regular Hours

Happy Holiday!



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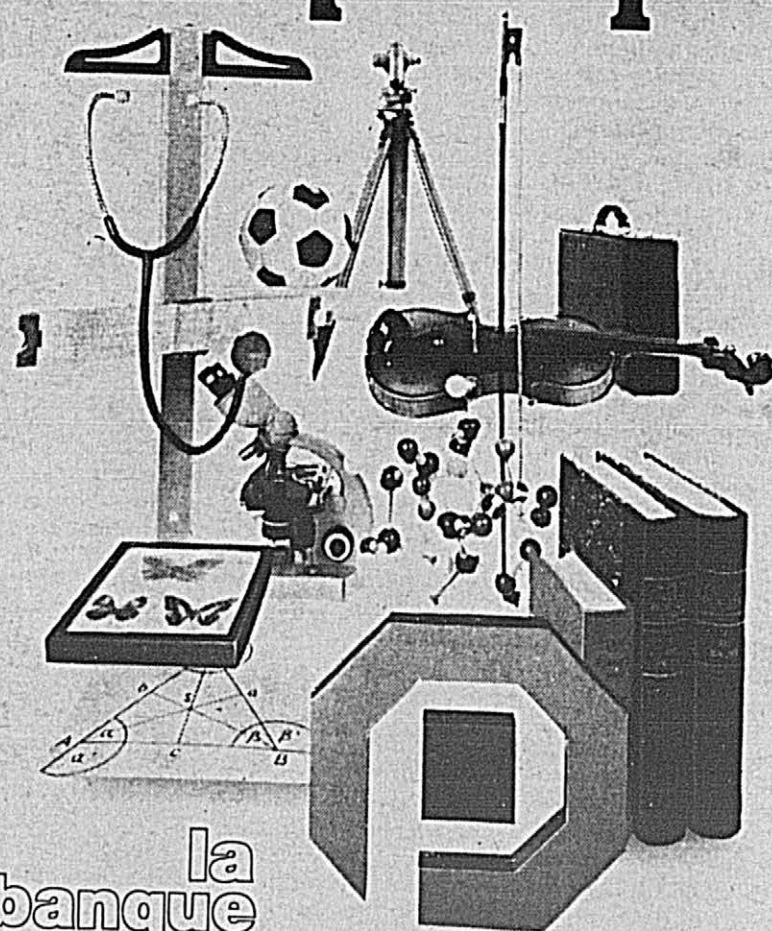
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Student activism...

continued from page 13

The Daily, a key factor in much of the activism on campus during the sixties, suffered by its position as a "hotbed" of radicals during the period of campus quiet in the early seventies. Leftwing politics in a hostile environment, and the absence of reasoned dialogue created a defensive Daily, one that was forced to count among its allies anybody who mouthed a "progressive" phrase. The Daily became less well reasoned, and more messianic in tone and lost much of its readership as a result.

The unhealthy situation between the Council and the Daily reached a peak in December 1975, when after constant Daily attacks on the honesty of the

Students' Council executive, the university Senate suspended the constitution of the Society. An irresponsible executive coupled with financial difficulties were the major reasons behind the trusteeship, which put the cork on not only many student organizations, but centralized student activities in general at McGill.

Reincarnation

Only last spring was the Society placed back into the hands of students with a new constitution (which by the way hasn't solved any of the financial or structural problems of the Society). Almost all of the Councillors were elected by acclamation.

The Daily, for the most part, has only in the last few years assumed its old role as campus newspaper.

The same old story

The problems which emerged over a decade ago,

when McGill students chose to remain separate from their francophone counterparts, still haunt this English bastion. Quebec students, be they English or French are faced with similar problems, all stemming from the provincial government control over post-secondary education.

But McGill students, like other Quebec anglophone students, feel a threat to the English language in the province, just as they did ten years ago, and feel affinity with the anglo administrators rather than with students on other Quebec campuses.

The real problems that face students and the future of post-secondary education go unnoticed amid the predictions of pre-eminent doom surrounding the English language and community in Quebec.

Research ...

continued from page 9

children are among the projects that make up the \$175,000 given to the Paediatrics department.

Since death is ever on our minds, Pathology received lots of money for study of diseases. \$71,000 was granted to a project dealing with the changes in the surface cells of the lungs that are caused by cigarette smoke. Another \$40,000 went to "Lung Distortion and Allergic Bronchioconstriction". Other studies were done on hepatitis, arteriosclerosis, cardiac heart muscle injury, lung disease, asbestos and fiberglass (studies on workers at asbestos plants have concluded that the fibers that go into asbestos and fiberglass and potentially carcinogenic) vitamin K, hormonal reactions and more.

The figures for this year and last year are still being compiled. Data already released indicates that more is being spent in most fields. Since only \$55,000 is being spent by McGill University, it really doesn't matter if results are produced quickly. The research will go on as long as there is available money.



Department reform was another issue which mustered student activism in the late sixties. Political Science students staged a bitter strike to gain the right to be represented on department committees — a right that today is taken all too lightly. Polisci professor Stanley Gray, one of the forces behind the demonstrations, was fired by McGill shortly afterwards.

Urban Issues

Drapeau machine running on beans

With municipal elections less than a year away, incumbent Jean Drapeau has already begun campaigning for the mayoralty. Members of the Civic Party, which Drapeau founded and heads, are organizing about a dozen baked bean suppers with the Mayor sitting at the head table. Drapeau's wife is reportedly hosting one of them. According to one Civic Party official, Drapeau is getting an early start this year because of his party's relatively poor showing in the 1974 civic elections. The MCM that year captured 18 of the 55 seats in City Council, damaging the Civic Party's perennial monopoly in City Hall. "We were asleep in 1974," says the official. "The Mayor wants to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Chinatown faces obliteration

According to Save Montreal architect Mark London, Chinatown will be obliterated unless the city acts to protect it from surrounding construction projects in the area. Save Montreal is demanding that the city develop a comprehensive plan for the neighbourhood, which would deal with traffic, housing, parking and zoning. The construction of the federal Guy Favreau complex and the proposed convention centre may destroy Chinatown, claims London. The public should be consulted when the city devises its plan, he adds.

PQ to decide on stadium roof in January

According to Sports and Recreation Minister Claude Charron, the provincial government will make a final decision in January on whether to build a tower and a retractable roof for the Olympic Stadium. "We can't take the risk of making a mistake on such an important investment," says Charron of the roof and tower, whose costs are estimated at \$100 million. Charron added that the Olympic Installation Board (OIB) still has to complete \$25 million worth of improvements on the stadium which were recommended by a provincial study group headed by Jean-Claude Marsan. While Charron and the PQ cabinet ruminate on the feasibility of installing the roof and tower, the material for the roof is being stored in France at a cost of \$12,500 per month.

Fair budget biggest ever

More money than ever before - \$14.1 million - will be spent on Man and His World next year. The M&HW budget was passed last week at City Hall during a municipal council meeting, despite warnings from the MCM that the decision could be a fiscal disaster. According to Mayor Drapeau's plan, M&HW will be administered by L'Association Montrealaise d'action recreative et culturelle, a private club created last September. Club officials anticipate revenues of \$6.2 million from the fair in 1978.

Displeased with the budget, the MCM has delivered a complaint

to the Quebec Municipal Commission (QMC). The MCM is demanding that the QMC invalidate the budget. The possibility that season visas may be given free of charge to all Montreal residents was also discussed at the meeting and supported by both the Civic Party and the MCM.

Suburban mayors renew attack

The suburban mayors have launched a new offensive against the MUC. Just days after having presented their case before Quebec Superior Court in an attempt to have the 1978 MUC budget deemed illegal, the mayors held a special meeting earlier this week in order to raise by two the number of suburban representatives on the MUC executive committee. If successful, the move would guarantee equal representation on the executive committee from the suburbs and the municipal administration and give the suburbs greater power in MUC policy-making. However, such a modification would necessitate an amendment to the City Charter or, in other words, the sanction of the provincial government.

According to Anjou Mayor Jean Corbell, president of the Conference of Suburban Mayors, equal representation would be only just since in 1977, 50.2% of MUC expenses were contributed by the suburbs.

The mayors have also revealed that police services, though less efficient, are more expensive in Montreal than in Toronto. They claim that a policeman costs the MUC almost \$4000 per year more than does a Toronto cop. Montreal policemen also receive an average of 519 hours worth of pay per year for vacations, off-days and breaks while their Toronto counterparts get only 459. The 1978 MUC police budget is estimated at \$179 million - \$5 million more than Toronto's.

Convention centre site deemed poor

Despite the fact that its own consultants this summer warned the provincial government that the Ville-Marie expressway site for Montreal's \$60 million convention centre was the poorest of the 14 alternatives being considered, the government chose it anyway. The consultants' report noted that the site would be difficult to build on, would provide access problems for both cars and pedestrians and had few hotel rooms in the area. Ground conditions were also deemed poor because the foundations would be emersed in underground water running from Mount Royal to the St. Lawrence River. Out of 25 separate points listed as criteria for selection, the Ville-Marie expressway site only scored well on four: its proximity to a Metro station and to Old Montreal, that it would help develop that part of the city and that the land is already owned by the provincial government.

Bus stops may get heated shelters

The MUC may equip bus stops with heated shelters if they are as inexpensive as Winnipeg officials claim they are. The officials say that the 6 by 12 foot shelters cost \$1700, which is \$200 cheaper than the unheated ones now in use in Montreal. MUC chairman Lawrence Hanigan approves of the idea, but is suspicious of the cost figure cited.

Marc Cassini



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Today ...

continued from page 8

Saint Saëns. Recital Room
C209 8:30 pm: Brass and
Woodwind Quintets, direction:
Nona Talamantes.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14

Faculty of Music free concerts:
Pollack Concert Hall 1 pm:
Two-Piano Recital. Works by
Mozart, Debussy, Poulenc, Pé-
pin, Bach. Pollack Concert Hall
8:30 pm: Chamber Music
Recital. Works by Martinu,
Kodaly, Brahms. Recital Room
C209 8:30 pm: Peter Freeman,
saxophone and clarinet accom-
panied by Lorraine Deschamps,
piano. Stafford Horne, clarinet.
Works by Weber, Poulenc,
Glazounov, Creston.

THURSDAY, DEC. 15

Faculty of Music free concerts:
Recital Room C209 1 pm:
Trombone Studio, dir: Ted
Griffith. Works by Jacobs,
Mendelssohn, Brahms, Peder-
son-Griffith. Recital Room
C209 7:30 pm: Jazz Impro-
visation Exam Recital. Classes
of Armas Maiste.

FRIDAY, DEC. 16

Faculty of Music free concerts:
Pollack Concert Hall 1 pm:
16th century Vocal Music, dir:
Paul Helmer. Presented by the
16th Century Performance
Practice Seminar. Works by
Finck, de Layolle, Palestrina,
deRore.

SUNDAY, DEC. 18

Faculty of Music free concert:
Demonstration of Suzuki me-
thods. Dir. Dr. Alfred Garson.
Pollack Concert Hall, 2:30 pm.

TUESDAY, DEC. 20

Faculty of Music free concerts:
Pollack Concert Hall 8:30 pm:
In collaboration with CAPAC.
Concert of Young Student
Composers.

Letters...

continued from page 6

In the engineer's letter, as far as
the Daily is concerned, was a
typo. The engineers who check-
ed the flats afterwards can verify
that. The typesetting employee
will admit to have perhaps
editorialized while typesetting
the letter and later while doing
the corrections that the Daily

called for. But he later asked
"Do you blame me?". Apparent-
ly, engineers have acquired a
reputation of being sexist, and
perhaps should expect some
reaction. Daily staffers were not
responsible for the change, yet
the Daily accepts the blame. It
should not have happened.

As the Engineering Rep to
Students' Council, you could
perhaps better spend your time
lobbying for the engineers to
stop using student money to
publish sexist content in their
newspaper.

All differences aside, Ber-
nard, I think we agree on one
thing. Students should become
more familiar with student poli-
tics at McGill.

Caroline Hébert
Daily staffer

Not quicksand, wet concrete

To the Daily:

I would like to comment on
Daniel Boyer's article 'Sadat
Abandons Palestinians' in the
November 24 issue.

President Sadat's visit to
Israel reflects his sincerity and
determination to achieve peace
in the Middle East. He succeed-
ed in breaking the psychologi-
cal barrier that led the Middle
East through 30 years of war,
mistrust, and hate. He also gave
a push to the slowing efforts of
reconvening at Geneva.

As for Mr. Faraj's comments,
I would like to point out that Mr.
Sadat went to Israel to state
Egypt's commitment to a home-
land for the Palestinians, and to
the withdrawal of Israel from all
occupied Arab territories, which
is the same position claimed by
Mr. Faraj to be that of the
Canadian-Arab Federation.

By stating the facts to the
Israeli people, Mr. Sadat did not
build a house on quicksand,
but he most certainly laid a
foundation for a just and
lasting peace in the area.

Rather than approving or
disapproving the call for Sadat's
execution, I think Mr. Faraj and
his Federation should follow
the steps of the Egyptian
people, and many other peace
loving people in their support
for Sadat's courageous step,
which could only bring peace
for all people living in the area a
step nearer than it was.

Ahmed Nazif

Race, not religion To the Daily:

This letter is written in
response to Susan Jones' letter
Nov. 30 concerning the Klars-
feld article. The death of
millions in WWII was dredged
up. Death is almost invariably a
tragedy to those left behind and
those looking back. Should one
look at the present and to the
future one will also see the
tragedy of death. In something
as unique and wondrous as life
does degree matter!? Each
individual life lost to hunger,
drugs, poverty is unknown
beauty lost. Hitler sought to
exterminate many groups,
some died in great numbers,
some in great degrees. To
claim that the deaths of one
group or another is more
deserving of weeping and gna-
shing of teeth is pitiful. Each
mother, father, sister, brother
knows sorrow is pain regard-
less of which group she or he
belongs.

Ms. Jones expressed puzzle-
ment over the difference be-
tween the treatment afforded to
Klarsfeld and Arafat. Arafat is
the leader, supposed or actual,
of the Palestinians — a people
currently disenfranchised and
without a home. He has as a
result turned to the use of
terrorist activity to acquire
political power and goals. As
his tactics infringe, justly or
unjustly, upon the rights and
lives of individuals of the
established nations it is absurd
to think they would welcome
him to the world community
and recognize him with hon-
ours. Klarsfeld, however, is not
the leader of a people, she is
advocating a "safe" cause
(everyone feels bad about what
happened to the Jews) and
therefore it was felt both safe
and conscience soothing to
nominate her for a Nobel Peace
Prize. In the future possibly,
probably, the world will feel
guilt about the Palestinians.

It was stated that Israel is on
Palestinian land. Whose land is
everybody on? Someone else's!
To say Israel is on Palestinian
land is equivalent to saying
Canada and the United States
are on Indian land. Would
anyone expect non-Indian A-
mericans to give the land back?
Throughout history, peoples
have displaced peoples and in
turn have been displaced.
North America is by occupancy
no longer Indian land. Israel is
no longer Palestinian land.
Should the Palestinians retake
the land, as they may well do,
then it shall again be Palestin-
ian land.

Ms. Jones noted that most
Israelis came from outside
Israel. Note that all American
peoples (north, south or other-
wise) including the Indians
came from elsewhere.

She held that the UN did not
act out of fear of being labelled
anti-Semitic. First the Arabs are
also Semites, second the UN
did not act simply out of the
fear of acting.

Concern was expressed that
continued on page 43

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Thinking of moving downtown next term? Rooms opening in January at Deke Fraternity. Adjacent to campus, meals, TV, phone, parking. \$100 plus meals. 3653 University St. or phone 842-2073.

Apt. to sublet. Jan 1st. 1 1/2 furnished. Pine Ave. \$150 per month (Inclusive). Call 937-9808.

Sublet 1 1/2. Corner University and Prince Arthur. January occupancy. \$135, furnished. Call 288-0948.

Thinking of moving downtown next term? Rooms opening in January at Deke Fraternity. Adjacent to campus, meals, TV, phone, parking. \$100 plus meals. 3653 University St. or phone 842-2073.

Female roommates to share a 5 1/2 on Pine & Hutchison with same. \$92. Share in signing the lease. Call 849-5522.

Female, third year, wishes to move in with people needing a roommate. Would like own room, walking distance from McGill. Mary 285-9082. Room 515.

1 1/2 for rent: near McGill; quiet, modern and furnished. \$135 month (includes everything). 3549 Lorne St. Apt. 402. 722-6152.

House to share. \$100 month. All included. 15 minutes walk to McGill. Close to St Lawrence St. Irene. 845-4515.

Female student looking for studious person to share bright, clean apartment. Must be non-smoker and classical music lover. Dec. rent-free. Peaceful neighbourhood, 15 min. from downtown, near shopping, transportation. 735-0735, 931-2724.

Non-smoker, preferably female, to share large 7 1/2 with 3 women. Own room. 5 minutes from McGill. \$80 month. 286-9061.

Female to share large 3 1/2 with same. 1 minute from McGill. Large bay windows. \$93.00. From January 1st. 288-5049.

Roommate wanted. 4 1/2 furnished apartment. 3660 Lorne Crescent with grad. student. \$85. Shared kitchen, utilities. Call Peter or Terry. 845-8770.

NDG-Melrose. Large and sunny 3 1/2. Heated, equipped. Sublet \$157. Available January 1st. Call Danielle. Days 285-2445. Evenings 487-4764, 484-1515.

Room on Pine Ave. 5 minutes from McGill. Share kitchen. \$115. No lease. Garage available. Phone 842-0841.

Apt. to sublet. 3 1/2 high rise with balcony. 7th floor, pool, laundry in building. Hutchison Avenue. \$226 month. Available immediately. Guy. 843-6804.

Rooms near McGill. Furnished. 521 Prince Arthur St. Near Aylmer. Immediate. \$24-\$35 weekly or \$89-\$130 monthly. 481-2209.

1 1/2 Apartment to sublet, on Lorne, furnished, carpeted, \$155 a month (water, heat, incl.) available now. Call 288-9274.

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Ladies blue wallet in Union, 12 noon Tuesday, Nov. 29. Money not important! Please return contents. 697-3794 Carol.

PERSONAL

Problem? Feel you need to rap with a rabbit? Call Israel Hausman: 341-3580.

Merry Christmas: Theo, Sleazy, Mopey, Dopey, Spyro, Anne, Paolo, Martha, P.J., U-2, U-3 Civils, Tina, Sushi, Neal, Howard, Mac, Santa.

Eastern townships cross country and downhill ski house available for sharing. Beginners welcome. Car pool. 651-0329 evenings.

Santa—The Elves love you. Theo, Sleazy, Mopey, Dopey, Spyro, Anne, Paolo, Martha, P.J., U-2, U-3 Civils, Tina, Sushi, Neal, Howard & Mac.

Beanie and Cecil wish all their friends in engineering (and John) a very merry Christmas (Rah Rah!)

Hey Mr. Are—I really think southern sissy's are "neat". Merry Christmas, L.L.

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One way plane ticket to Rome. \$150. Valid until Dec. 21st. Call 842-6088.

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continued on page 33

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So you want to write about women's issues

"All right, who wants to write something about women?" David asked a group of bored Daily staffers, in hopes that someone might claim the only story left on the list. "It's the only article left," he moaned, glaring at the group.

"This will be the first Christmas issue that we don't have an article about women," he insisted. "The streets are full of sexist advertising, the Plumber's Pot would make a fortune if they sold that garbage, Radio-McGill takes pot shots at Jewish women and the only letters we get say 'Isn't it nice that we can laugh at people, ha, ha'; and you guys sit here looking bored. What kind of journalists are you anyway?"

"We write about women all the time — women's rights, women's committees, sexism, human rights," Peter retorted, "there's not much left to say. Sure, I can write an article about the split in the women's movement or about how women's organizations are disjointed and isolated and that few people know they still exist. Or maybe an article about women's newspapers or books? Or maybe we could run that CUP article reviewing the 1978 Women's Diary? Nobody's going to read it anyway."

"Can't you do it?" he whined, looking in my direction to get some response. Feeling guilty, I said maybe, not having the slightest idea that hadn't already been rehearsed in Daily pages.

"People don't care; is the women's movement dead?"

"Discrimination against women in labour unions";

"Discriminatory rape laws in Canada";

"Discrimination against women in teaching professions at McGill";

"Does socialist revolution really ease the female condition?"; "Does the female answer lie in climbing up corporate ladders only to exploit sisters' labour?"

The files were full of good ideas if it weren't that the Daily had already rambled endlessly on those topics. So I sat down at a typewriter and started an article (any article)...

University a dead-end

"Women fought long and hard for equal opportunity in education and have finally achieved their goal." In fact, a recent New York Times article dispels the news that there are more women than men enrolled in post-secondary education in the US. Some

Canadian universities can boast the same. The University of British Columbia has announced that women now make up over 50% of its population — certainly a step forward since the days when women made up often less than 10% of the university community and that 10% were women of aristocratic background.

"Great leaps and bounds?" the commentary asks, "perhaps if a university education had the same value it had not so long ago." The author points out that today's university education has much less value than several years ago when graduates were automatically guaranteed jobs because of the demand for administrators, teachers, and professionals of all sorts, to nourish a thriving economy. He notes that as jobs requiring professionals became more and more scarce, the proportion of women in universities became higher and higher.

Today's university graduate comes cheap although education is still limited to those who can afford it.

The author concludes by asking if women's struggles have achieved all that much. When women finally gain equality, in higher education, is that education as valuable as it was when it was mainly limited to men?

His insinuation is "no"; one cannot simply glance at enrollment figures, see that there are as many women as men enrolled in universities and presume that women finally have equal opportunity.

Predictable Pot

Christmas is just around the corner, and so is the next issue of the delightful engineers' publication, the Plumber's Pot. What charming Christmas gift will those witty engineers give to chauvinism and sexism this year, one has to wonder.

A lovely young blond with rings on her fingers and bells on her toes — and nothing else, ho, ho, ho; or perhaps a delicious debutante decked in panty hose and sitting on Santa's knee. And Santa asks, "What would you like in your stocking, ho, ho, ho."

Or perhaps the more classic knee-slapper, a poem perhaps, about how a group of women who voiced their discontent with engineers using student money, to discriminate against women, and portray them as sex objects, and how they were laughed at because they stood up for something they believed in.



Merry Christmas

Stats Canada is pleased to inform women that despite all the progress made in equal job opportunities for women, there will be more female students unemployed during the Christmas holidays than males. This is merely a carry-over from last summer when the situation was the same.

Source of credibility

Two Daily staffers wrote a letter to the Students' Society telling of sexist comments an employee had directed toward a female employee lower in seniority.

"What? Sexism? Never?" stated a male employee.

"I don't want to talk about it. I don't want to lose my job," replied a female employee.

The affair ended behind the closed doors of a Students' Society committee meeting when a male employee explained to the group that one of the authors of the letter, a female, was not a credible source.

If you're not part of the solution ...

Perhaps the worst offenders against women are women themselves. Can you blame it on conditioning, or competitiveness, or perhaps that women have to play the game of being a "chick" if they want to be socially accepted.

The Women's Liberation Movement has achieved exactly how much when women still paint their faces, still accept less pay than a man for the same work and still feel that a man is a necessary part of happiness?

Women who defend their ideals of equality or attempt to prove they should be valued as highly as men, can tell of experiences that would make most women try to forget their second-class citizenship and be content with their situation. The words cold, intimidating and inhuman have been attached to me and every woman I know who has tried to assert herself in this male-oriented world.

The social sacrifice is great, but, if a woman stands up for her beliefs, they are often ridiculed and rejected; if she doesn't, the problem of discrimination against all women is more acute and much more difficult to overcome.



Classifieds . . .

continued from page 33

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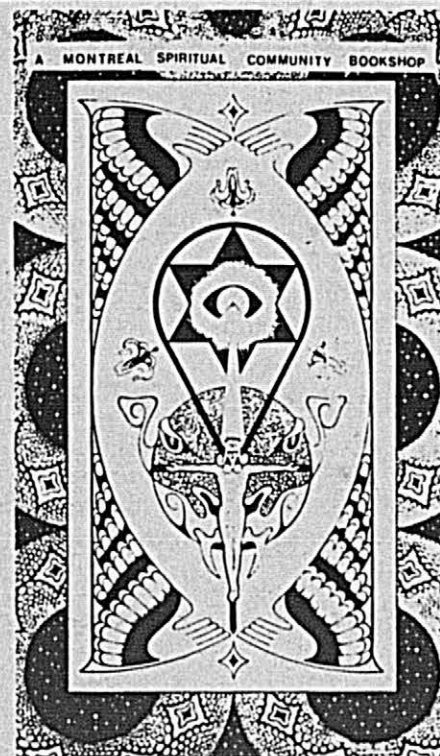
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The Weekly

The Selling of Middle Earth

by Michael Cameron

Few readers are indifferent to the works of J.R.R. Tolkien. His books can spawn either the profoundest boredom or the most fanatical enthusiasm in readers, and this seems to be part of their uniqueness. I've never met anyone who has actually finished *The Lord of The Rings* with a "not-bad" type of shrug: most readers never get that far it they don't find themselves responding to the eccentric universe of Middle-earth. In fact, fifteen hundred-odd pages (not counting the Appendices of the Unwin editions) is a long text to endure just to count yourself part of a "fad", especially if you find the text bizarre or irrelevant to modern experience.

It is the bizarreness, the eccentricity of Tolkien's world that probably earns it a lot of its popularity. The Cambridge don makes no concessions to popular taste or current fashion in *The Hobbit*, the Ring trilogy, and (especially) *The Silmarillion*. Readers seem to sense this, that Middle-earth began as a completely private universe informed by Tolkien's special life-long interests in myth, folklore, philology, and language. Cultists emphasize these aspects in Tolkien, while the average enthusiastic reader is probably unaware that they are both the foundation and inspiration for the whole project. Wordsworth once called poetry a private monologue by the poet that the reader is allowed to eavesdrop upon. Tolkien's work fits this definition, since it is as completely private as it is serious. Because of this, it should perhaps remain an acquired taste.

Middle-earth publicists

If the publishing industry and the media had its way, however, Tolkien would be as public and diluted as a Disney version of *War and Peace*. The current epidemic of Tolkien calendars, Middle-earth maps, forty dollar illustrated deluxe versions of *The Hobbit*, buttons, stationery, Christmas packages, and (now) an animated version of *The Hobbit* on NBC, seem to be meant to appeal to escapists and children. And only *The Hobbit* can conceivably be called a children's tale, although it is much more than that. By catering to the widest common denominator in the North American market, the Middle-earth publicists who have proliferated after Tolkien's death in 1973 seem to be compromising the author's original intentions.

Tolkien's universe is neither for children or dreamers, though both can enjoy certain aspects of it. It is not a part of the current sword-and-sorcery genre, or Faery, or even the fantasy world of modern pop illustrators. Based on Norse myth, a subtle Judeo-Christian morality (which is not at all conspicuous or distracting, however), world folklore, and the romance tradition, Middle-earth is ultimately based on Tolkien's personal interests alone. It is the consummate work of imagination and only utilizes these elements of knowledge in its creation because they are dear to its creator. A man as erudite as Tolkien cannot help but



make use of his knowledge in his work. It seems a little futile for scholars to trace such things as the linguistic relationship of Finnish to the Elvish tongue, of Eddic rune symbolism in the Ring trilogy, and Jungian archetypes in *The Silmarillion*, especially when the author describes all his works as "self-entertainment" alone. It is also strange that *The Lord of The Rings* should have become a sort of counterculture cult in the 1960s among ruralists and drug enthusiasts. It is probably one of the most conservative books ever written.

An unspecial special

The recent animated version of *The Hobbit* on NBC (November 27) is an example of the way Tolkien's work is being bastardized by pop culture. The animation was done by a staff of Japanese artists and it is, well, Japanese: pale, delicate, awash with sepia tones and streaky watercolours that do little justice to the rugged, Teutonic world of Middle-earth. Although we all have preconceptions about how characters look in books we read, it seems that the characters of Tolkien should be particularly respected in our imaginations, since the author has taken pains to minutely describe each of his creations. The NBC *Hobbit* completely ignored the pulse of Tolkien's inspiration, in favour of hitting family audiences, psychedelic audiences, and a North American audience unfamiliar with such entities as elves and dragons. As a result, the "elves" in the TV special looked more like hobgoblins, Gandalf looked like an evil Kabuki step-father, and the dragon, Smaug, looked suspiciously like a tortured version of Fritz the Cat. Probably the most disturbing

misinterpretation was the special's depiction of orcs, Tolkien's troglodyte goblins. Most of these were exaggerated villains reminiscent of Bugs Bunny's nemesis, the Tasmanian Devil. These blunders could be overlooked except for a certain tone in the entire show that veered between sickening sentimentality and Hollywood exploitation. Glenn Yarborough sang some manufactured theme song (vaguely Kingston Trio in melody and "I Did It My Way" in lyrics), while the fire, storm and violent parts of the tale were depicted by psychedelic extremes, fitting for Haight-Ashbury (circa 1968). Although undoubtedly well-intentioned at some levels, the show was unfaithful to its original script, pandering to television's constant need for prime-time family entertainment. One shudders to think what the animated *Lord of the Rings* will be like, which (rumour has it) Ralph Bakshi is preparing.

The Haight of popularity

The popularization of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of The Rings* began in the 1960s probably at the same time as the publication of the American paperback editions of the two works. *The Hobbit* was originally published in 1937, and the Trilogy in 1951, so the time lag was considerable before the books became successful. I remember finding a decrepit hard bound edition of *The Lord of The Rings* in the public library in the early 60s and wondering what it was all about before returning it to the shelf. It was only about six or seven years later that the Ballantine paperback edition intrigued me (and probably many other newcomers) enough for me to start into the first volume of the three.

In the years of radical politics and consciousness expanding that followed, the mythology of hobbits and orcs seeped into many aspects of popular culture. Folk-rock and pop music showed its influence: Donovan's album "Sunshine Superman" had an allusion to Mordor on its back cover; Joni Mitchell's song "I Think I Understand" is based on the Ring Trilogy (cf. the lines: "I think I understand / Fear is like a wilderness"); the reassembled Zombies, the band called Argent, had a lovely instrumental number called "Lothlorien" on their "Ring of Hands" album; "Frodo Lives" buttons and paraphernalia also abounded as trappings for the rise of the rock industry. In an era where the Beatles' "Magical Mystery Tour" image and Jimi Hendrix were the dominating pop images, it wasn't unusual that the eerie and sensational aspects of Tolkien's kingdom should become part of public myth. The world of Middle-earth was vast enough to encompass many features of our "real world", so it seemed sensible that many of us could find in it what we wanted to find.

The Silmarillion

All of which must have caused Tolkien-the-scholar and Tolkien-the-story-teller a large amount of pleasure and not a little amusement. It is ironic today that the esoteric fragments collected in *The Silmarillion* should have topped the New York Times bestseller list for several months now. It's a little like seeing your own diary become a Book-of-the-Month Club selection. This is a delight, when we compare the content of *The Silmarillion* to that of most of the sex-and-big-business extravaganzas that usually gain the doubtful honour of bestseller status. Quite simply, *The Silmarillion* is a little like the Biblical Pentateuch. If the Ring Trilogy is Tolkien's Passion and Apocalypse, then the *Silmarillion* is his Genesis, Exodus and Deuteronomy, complete with genealogies, laws, legends and songs. This may reinforce the suspicion that we in the 1970s are veering towards the radical right, but it may also mean that we are overcoming some of our rigid entertainment categories and that we are returning to a more innocent, and humorous view of reality.

The Silmarillion can disappoint some Tolkien fans because it is so purely Tolkienish. It is pure legend and myth, pure cosmogony and racial memory, and is, in its own way, a work of high seriousness comparable to Dante. It is difficult to think of another contemporary writer who could complete (or even dare to attempt) such an endeavour in these ironic times. Many aspects readers found endearing in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of The Rings* are missing, most noticeably hobbits themselves. The emphasis is on heroism and epic struggle, rather than the positive attributes of home and hearth. Domestic scenes are conspicuously

continued on page thirty-five...



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The Future of Old Montreal:

Neighbourhood or Dis-

by Ron Doyle

Behind the picturesque antique façade of Old Montreal, there is a very modern battle going on that will decide the future of the historic quarter. On one side are the traditionalists, on the other, the new urban activists. Both groups recognize the immense value and potential of Old Montreal, but they conflict over the basic goals and methods of historic conservation. Before analysing the implications of the debate, it is best to examine the history of the area.

Old Montreal has passed through a startling series of changes since May 18, 1642, when Paul de Chomedey, Sieur de Maisonneuve, founded the small French colony on an island in the St. Lawrence. The city's first census in 1666 counted 625 residents. But, by the middle of the 18th century, because of its strategic position, Montreal had become one of the most important trading centres in North America. The old city, contained within fortified walls, could not hold the burgeoning population. The city soon expanded beyond the fortifications. As the commercial hub of the city moved north, Old Montreal slowly deteriorated. Old buildings were transformed into warehouses, abandoned or even demolished. Several catastrophic fires ravaged the old quarter destroying many 17th and 18th century buildings. By the middle of the 20th century, the old quarter had become a virtual ghost town. Commerce was fleeing uptown to booming Dorchester Boulevard. Magnificent structures from the French

régime and the Victorian Era were left to decay and rot.

Then, in 1962, the situation began to reverse itself. City Council established the Jacques Viger Commission with a mandate to preserve and protect Old Montreal. In 1964, the Quebec Department of Cultural Affairs declared Old Montreal an official sector. No changes to existing structures can be made without the approval of the Cultural Affairs Department and the Viger Commission.

During the past decade, renovations have proceeded at a healthy pace. Old Montreal has become a leading tourist attraction. Restaurants and boutiques have sprung up. Old Montreal seems to be enjoying a renaissance.

However, behind the façade, profound questions are being raised about the future of the old city. Is preservation and restoration sufficient to create a viable neighbourhood? Who is responsible for developing a master plan for the district? Are existing government bodies doing an adequate job? These questions are being asked by various citizens and organized groups. Many are deeply dissatisfied with the status quo in Old Montreal.

No public accountability

The central conflict is between, on one hand, the cultural "establishment", who want the area preserved as an "objet d'art", on display for tourists and the occasional visit by locals, and on the other hand, the new breed of urban activists who want to see a rich mix of buildings of all ages and for all uses. One of

the most outspoken of these activists is architect Phyllis Lambert.

"The members of the Viger Commission belong to a period when a couple of barons ruled the world," she charges. She attacks the Viger Commission for being elitist and a reactionary. "There is no public accountability," Lambert maintains. There is no clear responsibility for the historic district of Old Montreal.

The Viger Commission is only an advisory body. It could function actively but it was created at a time when interest in conservation was still largely antiquarian and it developed bad habits. The Viger Commission has not learned to focus and direct private concerns and interest into public action.

"The Viger Commission members are appointed to serve for three years, but the commission has hardly changed in 15 years, and as the number of members can vary from seven to 21, no new blood is brought in."

Members of the Viger Commission grow positively livid when confronted with Phyllis Lambert's charges. Commission vice-president Rollande Pager calls Lambert a "troublemaker."

"Those who can't join the Viger Commission resent it," says Pager. "They blame everything on us. What does Phyllis Lambert mean calling us elitist? She has nerve calling us an elite. If I only had her millions..." (Lambert is the daughter of Samuel Bronfman and an heir to the Seagram liquor fortune). "It's always an elite who run things. Do you think I would let my milkman join? C'est toujours la crème."

Pager goes on to clarify the role of the Viger Commission. "Our role is one of surveillance and promotion. All building and renovation permits in Old Montreal must be approved by the Commission. We make sure historic structures are not demolished. We also control such things as commercial signs and it was the Commission which asked the City to ban motorcycles from Old Montreal."

Between these two extremes, the activists and the traditionalists, there are those who feel caught in the middle.

Pierre Benoit is owner of the Hôtel Nelson, administrator for the Macdonald Stewart Foundation, a member of Heritage Canada and founder of the Old Montreal Foundation and Secretary of Heritage Montreal. Being directly involved in these various undertakings and working closely with both Viger Commission Chairman David Stewart and Heritage Montreal president Phyllis Lambert he feels caught between "l'écorce et l'arbre", as he puts it.

Benoit acknowledges the fact that many members of the Viger Commission have certain limitations. "They stopped thinking 10 years ago," he says. "But they've done what they could with the people and money they had. The Viger Commission was basically an escape for the City of Montreal. It has no funds and the only paid employee is a part-time secretary who reports to a third-level



clerk in the Housing and Planning Department. The Viger Commission has no real authority."

Benoit gives much credit to the new urban activists but questions some of their methods. "Phyllis is very seldom wrong," says Benoit. "It's too bad there aren't more like her. But sometimes her tactics are a little too direct."

A new era begins

According to Benoit, the issue that sparked the present battle for the direction of Old Montreal was the Grey Nuns' Hôpital Général reconstruction plan two years ago.

In 1975, the Grey Nuns announced their intention to abandon their historic Mother House on Dorchester Boulevard and return to their former headquarters, the smaller Hôpital Général in Old Montreal.

Included in the plans was the restoration of the 17th century Hôpital Général. This would have required closing St. Pierre Street and demolishing blocks of fine Victorian commercial buildings so that an historically "pure" re-creation of the Grey Nuns' convent could be built. From that moment, people chose sides and took positions which persist and cause animosity even today.

According to Phyllis Lambert, "the Viger Commission was all for tearing down the buildings." At the height of the controversy, in 1975, Lambert published an article in *The Gazette* which analysed the proposal to

wreck old buildings and construct buildings even older.

"Manipulating history rather than contrasting heritage," she argues.

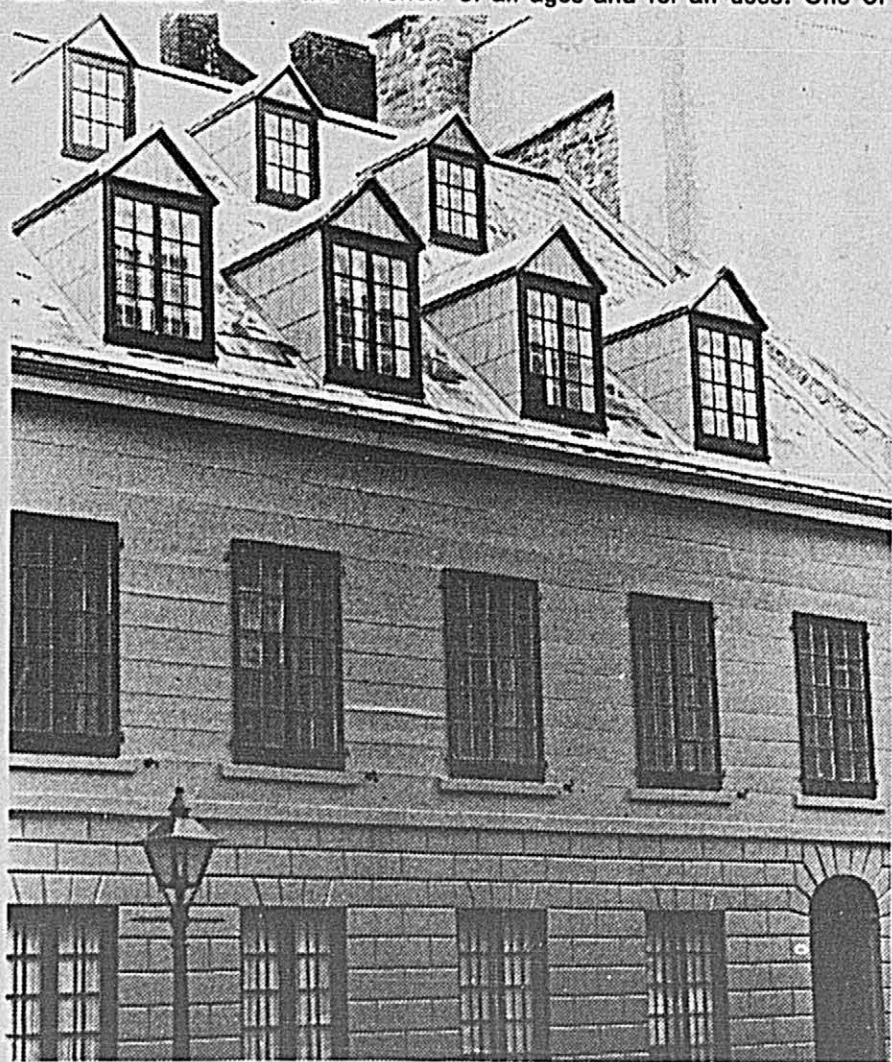
"Surely rejection of the 19th century is a phase we have passed through. Yet it lingers on, causing suffering in terms of our human urban environment."

Writing in *Le Devoir*, Marsan, Director of the Montreal's School of Urban Planning, called the plan "a re-creating the past as a gawk at."

On the other side were people like Gilles Proulx, who restored Place Royal in Old Montreal, City planner Bernard Gauthier, and Gilles Proulx. Like Quebec problems, the issue took on ethnic and social implications.

In June, 1976, Gilles Proulx in *Le Devoir*: "The Hôpital Général project is a pride of French Quebec. It will fulfill spiritual, cultural, historical objectives. The old building will become the living symbol of the Nuns' charisma."

This magnificent reanimate life in the old building with the permission to demolish Victorian houses on St.



photos: Meg T. Blank

Disneyland?

"Since we have been able to save the vestiges of the Victorian Era, we now have to go back to the French régime to have the right to a history of our own. The plan would reconcile Montrealers with their real origins."

Cultural Nationalism

Marsan strongly attacked this attitude: "Many people refuse to recognize the worth of this Victorian architecture principally because it does not reflect a French inspiration. If we had to destroy or neglect everything that was not of French origin in Old Montreal, there would not be much left in the historic quarter. This position reveals an extremely narrow attitude towards culture, that it should only possess one source of inspiration and should not reflect the accumulation of experience."

"Rather than bemoaning because Old Montreal has but a few buildings of French origin and wasting time on building lifeless historical abstractions, why not rejoice in the fact that we have one of the most interesting and considerable concentration of Victorian commercial structures in North America."

The plan eventually fell through but the basic controversy remains: Will Montreal become a rich, lively livable neighbourhood or a synthetic instant Disneyland like Place Royale in Quebec City; Upper Canada Village in Ontario, Louisbourg in Nova Scotia or Williamsburg in Virginia and countless historic buildings across the continent?

A personality conflict

"The conflict is really a conflict between personalities," says Alain Houle, a writer for *le Devoir* and a resident of Old Montreal who has observed the ongoing battle over the area's future. Pierre Benoit concurs saying, "You have people like Jack Molson, who's about 70 years old, and runs the Canadian Heritage of Quebec. He's now spending a fortune restoring the old Silver Dollar Saloon on Place Jacques Cartier. It was a beautiful tabagie and now he's turning it into another museum."

On the other hand, Benoit explains, are the activists. Most of the activists work through newly-formed organizations which are fighting to make Old Montreal a livable district with a lively population mix. Problems Old Montreal still faces, explains Benoit, are a lack of services and a lack of foresight on the part of city officials and planners.

"We classified without planning. We have to put something down on paper even if it's only tentative. Investors need plans. For example, in regard to housing, developers must know where to build apartments and what the character of the area will be."

"Old Montreal needs places where you can have your clothes cleaned, buy a newspaper or toothpaste," says Benoit. Most residents agree that life in the historic quarter is a mixed blessing.

"There is too much noise, too much traffic and too much dust during the day," says Alain Houle who lives in a restored structure on

de la Commune.

"Old Montreal is still a 'quartier rouge'. Although it's changing, there is not enough police, insufficient lighting and too many rowdy characters on the streets." Living in the old city you have to endure quite a bit. There's still some industry and the port created many noise and traffic problems. The newly-renovated housing invariably has many construction problems, especially with roofs, windows and heating. But, because it is Old Montreal, I have compensations..."

Houle also mentioned the lack of services. "There's no tabagies, no pharmacies, no dépanneurs and everything closes after five. Ordinary restaurants close after office hours. The big, expensive restaurants stay open but if you want a hamburger, there's nothing."

According to city estimates, the present resident population of Old Montreal is around 1500 people. Houle describes the residential mix.

"The kind of people that live here are typically young professionals - journalists, writers, artists, designers, architects, actors... I think there's more English people than French and more singles than families. They are not rich but they are well off. It's expensive to live here. But, I think that everyone that lives here is here because they love the quarter. No one is indifferent. I think that eventually Old Montreal will become Montreal's Greenwich Village."

The New Urban Activist

The fate of Old Montreal now rests largely with an interrelated group of activist individuals and organizations. (See accompanying story.) Several recently announced renovations projects will also strongly affect the future of the historic quarter.

Cours Le Royer (see photo) is a \$10 million development project that will eventually boost Old Montreal's population by 500. Recently in the news because Premier René Lévesque purchased a home there, Cours Le Royer is more than just a pretty building. It has received the National Award of Honour from Heritage Canada, the national conservation organization, for outstanding design.

According to Phyllis Lambert, who

helped back the project through Cemp, the Bronfman family investment company, Cours Le Royer is "the most important single project happening in Old Montreal." When completed, the 19th century warehouses will house boutiques and professional office space as well as luxury condominiums.

Another large project that is set to take off is the long-awaited harbour redevelopment scheme, explained Pierre Benoit.

"I was talking to the Minister last week and I can confirm that the decision to go ahead with work on the port has been made." Contrary to speculation, Benoit said that, "No container port will be built at the foot of Place Jacques Cartier."

The harbour redevelopment scheme has been included as a standard electoral promise for years. The confirmation that Ottawa will finally begin work on the harbour was greeted with skepticism by Old Montreal Residents. "Seeing is believing," says Alain Houle whose view of the harbour is obstructed by huge abandoned grain elevators.

Aside from the redevelopment schemes, the most significant development for the old city may be the establishment of the Old Montreal Foundation. The Foundation, headed by Pierre Benoit and David Stewart of the Macdonald Stewart Foundation, is slated to begin operation in early January.

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In The Groove: Musical Trends of the Seventies

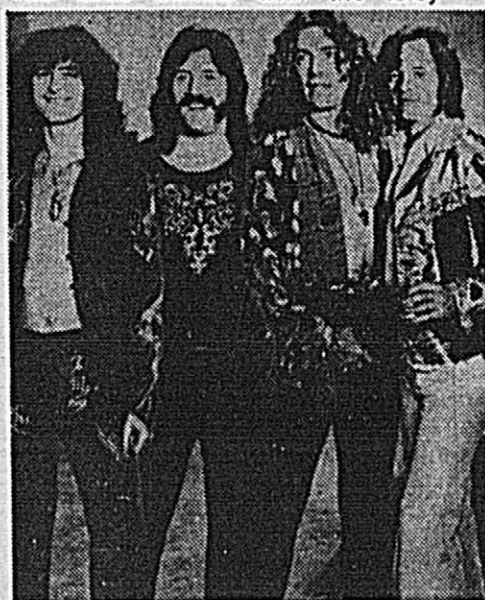
by Ronnie Wigdor and Harvey Kader

Hard rock of the late '60s stunned a lot of people. Why, just a few years earlier the Beach Boys sang to Rhonda in their effervescent California style, and the Four Seasons dazzled Sherry with Frankie Valli's seamless falsetto.

The sixties definitely underwent some changes. If they came in like a lamb, they sure as hell went out like a lion.

Hard Rock and Heavy Metal

No-one really knows who started the heavy acid-rock phenomenon. Perhaps it was the Beatles, who undoubtedly created progressive rock with *Sergeant Pepper*. Or it might have been Jimi Hendrix, who had once worked with the Isley



Led Zeppelin

Brothers, and created a legend out of his own type of spacey freak music. But somehow hard rock was born, and by 1968 it was very cool to dig the groovy sounds of *The Jefferson Airplane*, *Iron Butterfly* and *Ten Years After*.

Most hard rockers of the sixties burnt out quickly (literally and figuratively), but managed to make their mark. Their influence is still heard in such bands as *Led Zeppelin*, formed in 1970, arguably the most popular pure hard rock band in the business.

Droning heavy metal is not a novelty any longer, which has perhaps led to its recent decline. There are still, however, numerous hard rock bands which deliver their art with commendable proficiency. *Nazareth* and, a bit closer to home, *Aerosmith*, continue to dish out only heavy metal, in a manner that heightens the pleasure of die-hard rock buffs.

Disco

Evolving from the Motown sound of the sixties, (*Supremes*, *Four Tops*, etc.) disco music represents a sharp change from the otherwise stagnant American Rhythm and Blues.

When George McCrae's 1974 smash hit "Rock Your Baby" rose to the top of North American charts, it was clear that this pioneering tune would usher in a new form of contemporary music. From its inception, the public loved the throbbing bass and danceable beat that have since become disco trademarks.

By the end of 1974, the American discotheque reached an unprece-

dented height of popularity as people bumped, boogied, and got down to the new sound. Gloria Gaynor, Barry White and Labelle contributed greatly to the ever-growing popularity of the genre in its early days.

1975 introduced KC and the Sunshine Band, who were to become the year's main disco attraction, chalking up two platinum singles in the process. Mid-summer saw the trend shift away from heavy soul as Van McCoy's "Hustle" took over the dance floor.

Disco music made such a tremendous impact on the music market that rock and pop stars started to experiment with the new sound, and what was predominantly a black art form was adapted by white musicians. Disco songs by David Bowie, the BeeGees and even the Eagles began to fill the airwaves.

A disco recession came in 1976 as a more mellow style emerged. Lou Rawls, originally a Motown performer of the mid-sixties, made a devastating comeback when his tune "You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine", originally the B-side of a 45, introduced the slow disco.

Today disco music is as popular as it was two years ago. Disco is stretching its boundaries into more progressive areas, and leading the pack is Donna Summer, who has truly earned her billing as 'the queen of the discos'.

All in all, disco is doing a pretty good job of disproving its highly publicized label, "the fad that wouldn't last."

Progressive R & B

Like disco, progressive rhythm and blues of the '70s has its roots in the Motown sound. The start of the decade was the right time for R & B to make the distinct crossover to heavier soul. The result of this transition was funk — music with the basic driving bass and drum lines, but augmented by horns and elaborate arrangements.

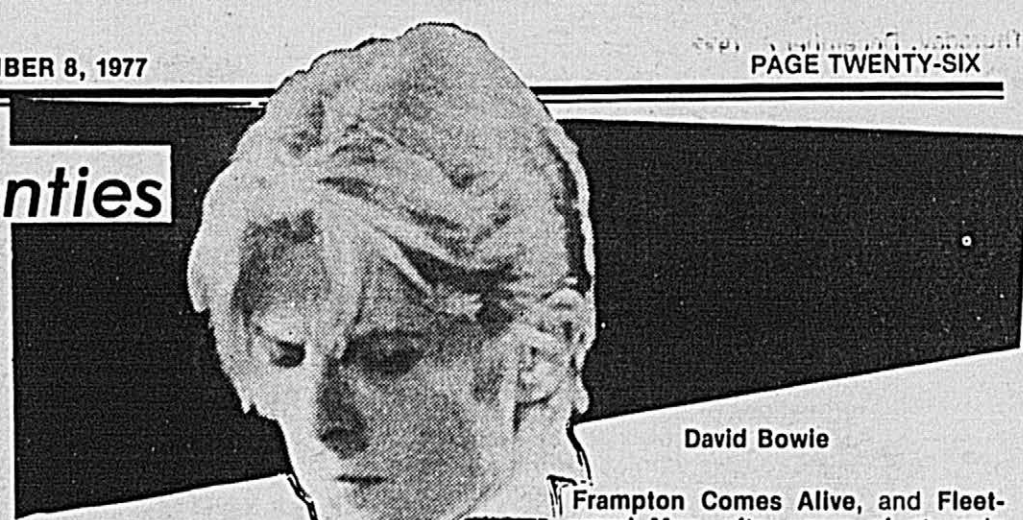
This blend created a style so significant that in 1974, *Philadelphia International* records was created by *Columbia* records to deal solely with the new "Philly" sound. Helping to promote and popularize funk and *Philadelphia Int.* during the early days were the *O'Jays*, *Earth, Wind & Fire*, and the *Isley Brothers*.

At this time Motown itself was changing its image, which had been as the bubble gum rock company of the '60s. The seventies introduced the public to a fresh new style of intricate instrumentation complete with synthesizers, with such stars as *Stevie Wonder* and *Marvin Gaye*.

Motown still churned out the catchy 45 hits, but extended its listening audience to the FM crowd by its progressive music. Also attracting the late-night listeners were controversial lyrics, which went beyond the cliched love laments that first put Motown on the map in the '60s.

MOR

Middle of the road (MOR) is the product exclusive to the 70s (ever hear of *Pat Boone*? —Ed.), a happy medium between progressive rock and commercial pop. At the end of the hippie era the musical world set radical wheels in motion. Heavy rock



David Bowie

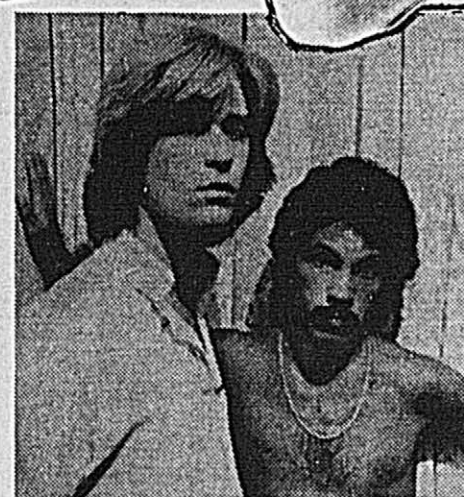
Frampton Comes Alive, and *Fleetwood Mac*, after years of struggle playing the blues, became the year's most popular group when they found the sound of MOR.

MOR was the perfect blend when it happened. It includes a lot of ground today, and there's no telling how long it will continue.

Glitter and Space Rock

As a reaction against the macho image of the hard rockers, Glitter rockers emerged. Perhaps, more than any, they interpreted and promoted a change in culture and in sexual identity. Wearing make-up and dresses the glitter boys were

continued on page twenty-eight...



Hall & Oates

was coming of age and pop and folk, though still popular, were not enough so to please every listener. Needed was a good combination of heavy and lightweight rock.

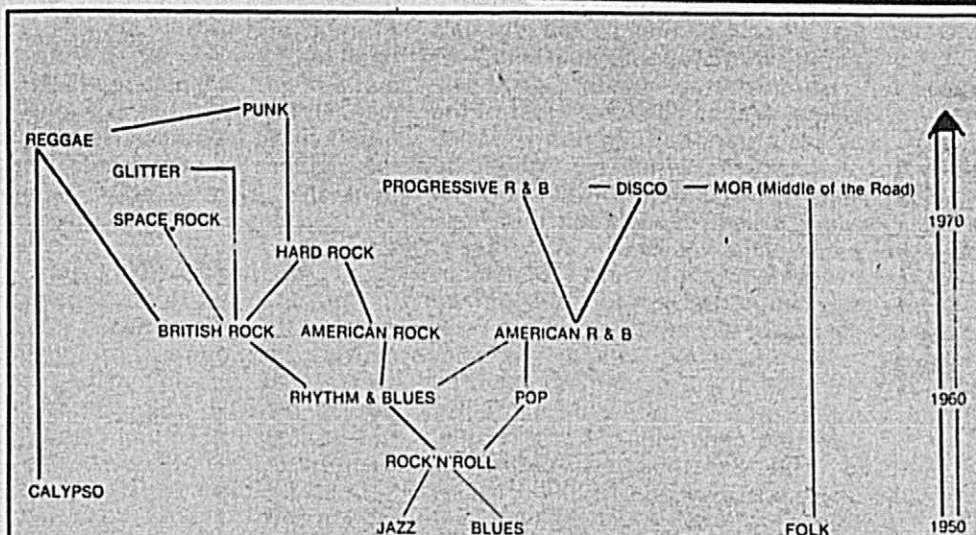
In 1972, with the release of his *Honkey Château* album, Elton John unofficially christened this form a music, soon to be labelled MOR. It was just what the people needed. John mixed rock and pop in his own unique way, and with the help of subsequent recordings, he became one of the greatest success stories contemporary music has ever seen.

Elton John's virtual monopoly in MOR led other notable stars of the mid-seventies to try this relatively new field. Paul McCartney and his band *Wings*, established themselves as a notable outfit, via *Band on the Run* and *Venus and Mars*.

Darryl Hall and John Oates had attempted folk and rock separately, before falling into the MOR category. Unknown Pater Frampton blew the world over with this 1976 album



Marc Bolan



Above is a flow chart, describing the progression of music from the 1950s to the present, and the interrelations between the various styles.

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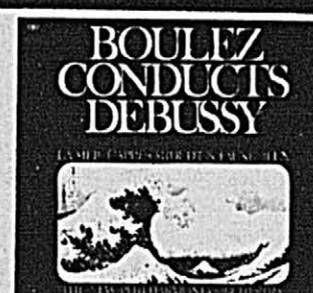
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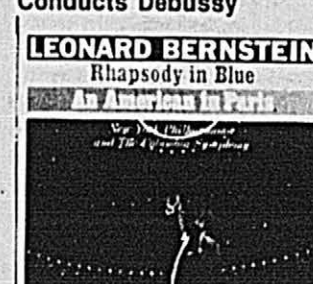
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continued from page twenty-six

quite a surprise to the kids who grew up with the likes of Deep Purple or Black Sabbath.

What glitter rock put to the forefront, more than they changed any styles in music, was the theatricality they added to rock and roll. For this reason, those dependant upon an "image" soon fell to the wayside.

Gary Glitter began the movement in the late sixties, but, lacking any great talent, he made no great effect on the North American continent, although phenomenally popular in Britain for a while. The same is true of Marc Bolan, who, with his curly tresses and eyeliner, was a pop hero in England, but who failed to make it on this side of the Atlantic.

One of the reasons for David Bowie's success was the immense quality of his production on vinyl, and his evident musical ability. Coupled with his bizarre stage appearance and his conception of the perfect plastic rock person - Ziggy Stardust - Bowie seemed destined to succeed.

Soon Mick Jagger and Elton John were flaunting furs and make-up on stage. Alice Cooper, sensing the decadence behind the whole glitter rock movement, exploited it by gross exaggeration. He brought live snakes on stage and decapitated dolls. His stage appearance, in torn tights and T-shirt, and grotesque face make-up, parodied the whole glitter movement. It is symptomatic that the audience

he attracted, the "teenyboppers", were only a few years earlier raving on the Partridge Family and the Jackson Five.

While glitter rock was in its hey-day a concurrent musical form arose, also from England - space rock. During the late sixties, the Moody Blues, with their LP *In Search of the Lost Chord* created this new form. Another group who aided in the acceptance of this avant-garde movement was Keith Emerson's ensemble *The Nice*.

The characteristics of space rock, depersonalized lyrics and synthetic music, suited Bowie's space man persona, and with songs like "Space Oddity" and "Life on Mars" he popularized the otherworldly and cold style.

One of the most popular practitioners of space rock is currently Pink Floyd, who changed from their early heavy metal beginnings with *Dark Side of the Moon*, a 1973 best-selling concept album. With its synthesized chants and heart beat pulse rhythms, the album brought Pink Floyd immediate stardom, and solidified the space rock movement.

Their next album, *Wish You Were Here*, continued the spacey format of *Moon*, but added a touch of Jazz. And their current release *Animals*, although more commercial than the previous albums, continues in the same vein - haunting textures of synthetic sound.

The Synthesizer

Akin to space rock is the branch of modern music which believes in

creation of sound entirely on synthetic instruments.

Foremost in this field is Brian Eno, who is currently collaborating with Bowie. Eno creates music by mixing layers of sound he obtains on his moog and synthesizers.

Groups like Kraftwerk and Tangerine Dream, both from Germany, give a certain sterile perfection to this form with their "music to increase productivity."



Reggae

From Trenchtown, Jamaica, in a cloud of smoke, comes reggae music, a blend of calypso steel drum music and British rock. Marijuana, which is available anywhere in Jamaica, is the religious herb of the Rastafarians, a sect which believes Haile Selassie to be the Divine God of the world. The concept of Rastafarianism is intrinsic to reggae music, since the purpose of the music is mainly to propound the idea of the religion. Reggae is not only a musical form, but also a political statement against the oppressive conditions on the island.

Bob Marley and the Wailers are perhaps the best-known reggae musicians. Their songs have influenced many rockers like the Stones, Elton John and Eric Clapton, who scored a hit single with a pale re-make of the Marley song "I Shot the Sheriff."

Others worthy of mention include Peter Tosh, Third World, the Heptones, and Toots and the Maytalls.

Groups like Loggins and Messina and Johnny Nash transposed reggae to the North American continent,

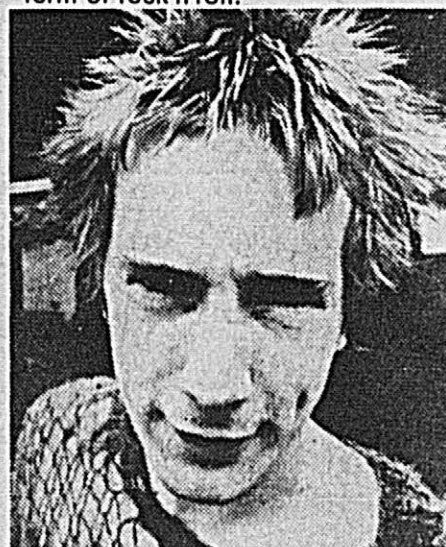
ignoring its political implications. But the politics seem to have influenced the working-class young of America and Britain, and led to the newest wave of all - Punk.

Punk

What is punk? Punk rock, being an ever-changing and current form of music, is impossible to characterize, since it may go anywhere tomorrow. But perhaps the basic idea behind the original punk groups like The Ramones and The Sex Pistols was to rediscover the basic roots of rock and roll. In England the raw vitality of the music has been combined with an anarchic brand of politics. Where reggae is bitter yet hopeful (professing that we will find our paradise on earth - Babylon), punk is bitter and anarchic.

Riding the gravy train of sensationalistic media attention have been bands like The Boomtown Rats, The Stranglers, The Dead Boys, The Clash and The Damned. What all these bands have is a lot of energy, reminding us of the early sixties bands like the Stones and their first frantic hits, but what many of them lack is talent, and the ability to perform musically.

When the painful beginnings of punk - the safety pin up the nose trick and the beat your partner's head in ploy have fallen by the wayside, perhaps punk will emerge as a viable form of rock'n'roll.



Time out for love

by Gail Helmann

A couple of years ago at this time the major film companies were beckoning us with their special Christmas releases. Movies like *Airport* and *The Poseidon Adventure* were meant to excite us, but kept our holiday travel plans to a minimum. Scads of apartment dwellers placed battery operated smoke detectors under their trees lest their buildings become *Towering Infernos*. The miracle of "sensurround" brought Easterners that much closer to their fellow man on the San Andreas fault. The heyday of the disaster film has come and gone. If a movie is indeed a product of its times we're in luck. Today's trend seems to be the simple love story.

Lately the Montreal cinema buff can choose from films like *Heroes* in which Sister Bertrille and the Fonz team up, or *First Love* where Susan Dey (ex Lori Partridge) gets her man, not to mention *You Light Up My Life* which spawned the hit single we're so familiar with. Who will ever forget beautiful but dumb Sylvester Stallone's overtures toward his favourite plain-Jane pet shop salesgirl? Obviously producers and directors have a message for Christmas 1977; the common man, the proletariat, yes, even you, can fall in love.

The latest heart-warming love story to hit North America made its Montreal debut last Friday night. It is called *The Goodbye Girl*, written by Neil Simon and starring his wife, Marsha Mason, and Richard Dreyfuss, of Duddy Kravitz fame. The plot is uncomplicated. A chorus girl, Paula (Marsha Mason) has just been



ditched by her live-in boyfriend, Tony, who has run off to Italy and sold the lease of their New York apartment to a new tenant. Paula and her 10-year-old daughter Lucy (Quinn Cummings) are forced to share their living quarters with an actor from Chicago, Elliot Garfield (Richard Dreyfuss). Garfield, who wears wire-rimmed glasses and has that scruffy, chubby look of a true artist, irritates Paula, what with his health food and meditation habits, but quickly wins the admiration of the precocious Lucy. The quick-witted Elliot becomes surprisingly vulnerable when the production of *Richard III* in which he plays the great king as a drag queen flops pitifully. Not surprising, however, is the fact that Paula is won over by Elliot and the two fall hopelessly in love.

Simon's script is fast-paced and often very funny. Unfortunately, however, it tends to become too fast

continued on page thirty-two...

ELA Launches SF

by Stephen Mac Dougall

Science fiction, as a literary form, has certainly had more than its fair share of ups and downs. The early '70s brought the "retirement" of Robert Silverberg and Barry Maltzberg, two of the most prolific and revered writers in the field as well as the decline of several of the premiere SF magazines. However, of late SF has seen a great revival of sorts, its popularity on a definite upswing. Due in part to this unforeseen flourish, the English Literature Association has undertaken the publication of McGill own SF magazine, *The Thousandth Man*.

The Thousandth Man (the title comes from a poem of the same name by Rudyard Kipling) was conceived by ELA chairperson Wendy Pearson and a few friends after countless discussions centred around Star Trek and science fiction in general. The first ish, a ten-page, two-article affair, came out in the off-season and sold an amazing forty-five copies, barely breaking even. Because of this response to the "test" version, the

current version of *The Thousandth Man* carrying both SF and fantasy was established, its main aim to give vent to quality SF material from McGill, trying to break even in the process.

The magazine, as it exists at present, is a thirty-page issue resulting mainly from the efforts of editor Wendy Pearson, who edited material, typed copy and filled in spaces with her own graphics. Influences from current SF digests were avoided as much as possible, the magazine taking both a different size and a different format. "The current SF magazines do not have an aesthetically pleasing format and have deteriorated in recent years," comments Pearson.

Remarkably, submissions have been plentiful, coming more from the line of fantasy than science fiction.

The Thousandth Man will be published three more times this year, at a single issue price of seventy-five cents. It will be available at the ELA office, Mansfield Book Mart, and possibly at both Sadle's and The Word.

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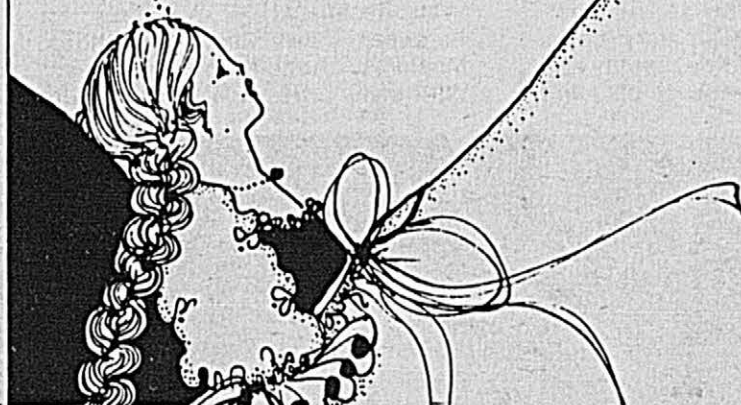
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Interview With Irving Layton

by Russell Thornton

*They dance best who dance with desire,
Who lifting feet of fire from fire
Weave before they lie down
A red carpet for the sun.*

As Irving Layton speaks, his blue eyes glow with the steady, crystalline light of a visionary. He is a short, huskily-built man, rearing his head proudly, a thick mane of hair turned silver-grey falling back from his face in waves — always showing an almost preternatural awareness of the world around him — and addressing us from the heart: now singing softly, now uttering a roar of angry, fervent eloquence. He is the embodiment of the poet-prophet; a voice calling to the generations of the post-World War Two age; a passionate, fiery spirit belonging to the line of the great Hebrew prophets; a poet who has plunged into the muck of reality, seen the foul, mendacious side of man, yet emerged to praise, celebrate, and joyously affirm existence.

Layton has published over thirty volumes of poetry. He is the most prolific, the most powerful, the most widely recognized, and the most important Canadian poet of this century. To ignore his body of work is to turn away from the most urgent moral and psychological dilemmas of our time.

Early on, he cried out against evil and corruption, respectability, philistinism, anti-sexuality, and totalitarianism. Later, during the sixties, Layton became more explicitly concerned with coming to grips with war, mass murder, and a rotting Christian civilization.

From the beginning, his work has revealed a man wrestling with the sanguinary afflictions of the twentieth century. He has never refused the "crown of thorns". He is profoundly aware that in the hellish world man has created, every individual must struggle to overcome suffering. The struggle can have dignity if man accepts his condition with rebellious passion and ecstatic delight.

And so Layton has always savagely resisted any force that would rob him, or any man, of his power to love, or his human capacity to feel and express joy. His ardent wrath, his fuming defiance, and his pugnacious outbursts of resentment are meant to warn his fellowmen. Accept responsibility for the evil inside you, he is saying. At the same time fight it — walk after love and light — and behold what Layton discerns as "God's footprints in a cloud."

And here is Layton at sixty-five, his craft perfected, his seminal mind driving harder towards truth. And if the pure force of his art is troubling to some, that is all the better. For Layton, like all prodigious men, is in the business of changing the world. The old, hypocritical values and institutions will never be swept away unless the mass of men are jabbed sharply in the collective moral conscience. So Layton shoots his poems from the hip. He is a fumigator — clearing out the garbage a "Christianized culture" has shovelled into our souls.

He sees his two latest books as

representing the culmination of a long development as a poet and thinker. In *For My Brother Jesus* and *The Covenant*, Layton charges Christianity with the crime of anti-Semitism and contemporary genocide, and attempts to de-mystify and humanize Jesus while re-claiming

significant experiences of our time have been Auschwitz and Gulag. He shouts from the rooftops for the vast numbers of lives this century has seen decimated — not only for European Jewry, but for Hindus, Moslems, Armenians, Russians... With some bitter rage, but also with

Layton recently gave a reading of his poems at Champlain College. As always, he touched the audience with his passionate eloquence, his personal force, his vibrant sense of humour, and his friendliness. Before the reading we talked with Mr. Layton, and he was kind enough to

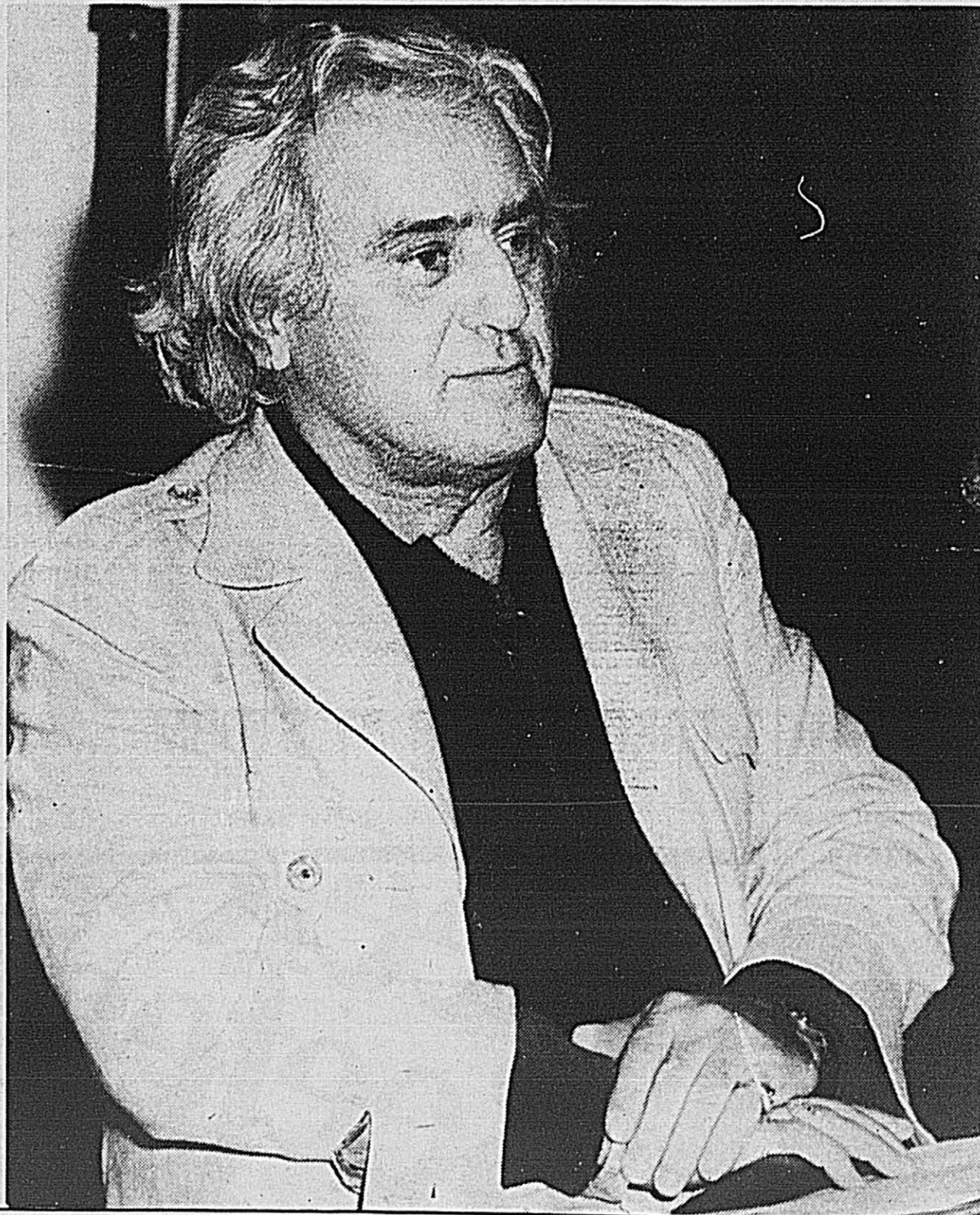


Photo courtesy of Irving Layton Collection, Concordia University

"I consider myself in the line of the great Hebrew prophets."

him for the Jews as one of their greatest prophets. In the Forewords to these two volumes, Layton says he wants to expose people to the "ignoble lie" of Christianity. He is quite sure that bourgeois Christian civilization is in its death throes; and he claims Christianity can be viewed as a "severe neurosis," with consequences of "self-hatred, hubris, guilt, and intolerance."

For Layton the most searing and

playfulness and a sense of simple joy, Layton calls in a new age. Every poem radiates affirmation of life. In every poem, the words speak for human dignity and worth, for charity and freedom. He has written:

*"Affirm life," I said, "affirm
The triumphant grass that covers the worm;
And the flesh, the swinging flesh
That burns on its stick of bone."*

comment on some of the themes of his career, his latest publications, and his current undertakings.

During the interview Layton was a powerful, striking presence. At times, he showed the vituperative rage and street-fighter qualities he is famous for. More apparent, he showed also that he is a man of uncommon warmth and gentleness.

How Layton's work will be assessed fifty or a hundred years from

now is no longer in question. He is one of the greatest poets who has ever lived. It is also time we looked at Irving Layton in the same light in which he views the figure of his majestic Brother Jesus.

In the Foreword to "Balls For A One-Armed Juggler" you said poets have "refused the crown of thorns." Do you see yourself in the role of prophet?

Yeah. I think a poet is a prophet. I think he's a descendant of prophets, and it's the job of the poet-prophet to make his generation aware of those things they are likely to ignore or overlook through pride, or greed, or vanity, or perversity; and that your major poet is someone who rubs the noses of his compatriots in precisely those disagreeable facts of human existence and of their own lives they would rather forget all about. In my own case I am concerned with making people aware of what the meaning of the Holocaust is all about — the extermination of six million innocent men, women and children. I don't want that to be ignored, as it has been, and I don't want the significance of that to be forgotten — because for me, the Holocaust is a symbol of what human beings in the twentieth century, de-personalized, de-humanized by technology and science, are capable of doing to other human beings in the way of degrading them, de-humanizing them, robbing them of their human essence, torturing them, humiliating them before they turn them into soap... and smoke.

I don't want that symbol to be lost. I think the Jews have given to the world two very great symbols: firstly, the symbol of Jesus on the cross, which is for me, a very moving symbol. A solitary Jew, who defied the Roman Imperium. The Jew without tanks, without an airforce, without an army, without swords, without armour. A weak, powerless Jew, who nevertheless defied the Roman might; just as the Jew defied the might of the Babylonians, the Persians, the Medes... And as the Jew has defied all other powers and dominions, the Jew nevertheless is here and those powers are not here. So that whenever a power arrogates to itself the supremacy and the feeling that they are superior and everlasting, the Jew is there to remind them that their claims are hollow and will be negated by time.

That for me is the great symbol of Jesus on the cross. This one Jew, who defied the Roman Imperium — and there are these Roman soldiers, dicing for his garments, quite certain that the Jew was destroyed for evermore under their heel because they had the armour, they had the battalions, they had the regiments, they had the centurions, they had the Imperial Purple... and where in the hell are they? They are nowhere, they're wiped out — and the Jew is still here, returning to his own land after the Romans have been turned into dust. What a powerful symbol. Namely, the overwhelming power of spiritual might — that the spirit cannot be destroyed. And this is a symbol, not only for the Jews — it is a symbol for all mankind — that spiritual power can never be destroyed, can never be overwhelmed — that the airplanes and the navies and the armies, they sink into nothing and the spiritual power remains.

The Jews have given the world

another symbol, equally tragic, equally potent, namely, the Holocaust — the extermination of six million Jews. But nevertheless, where is the Third Reich Hitler said would endure for a thousand years? Where's Hitler? Where's Goebbels? Where are the Nazis? Where are the Swastikas? They are gone. Into the night, into the darkness. And we are still here. What marvelous symbols they are, not only for the Jews — for mankind. *If Hitler and the Nazis were part of a crumbling civilization, then do you see yourself engaged in the task of hastening the demise of that civilization? And if "For My Brother Jesus" and "The Covenant" represent a culmination of a development of thought — where do you go from here? What do these works augur for the future?*

The first think I want to do is clear

"Christianity has been a training in mendaciousness and hypocrisy for two thousand years."

the air. Christianity, or rather, I prefer to call it pseudo-Christianity — "Xianity" — has been a training in mendaciousness and hypocrisy for two thousand years. It is important to clear the air of this mendaciousness and hypocrisy. That's the first thing I want to do. It's a clearing operation. If I can get people to recognize that anti-Semitism begins in the New Testament with the mendacity and lies in the New Testament, and the mendacity and lies in the teachings of the Church Fathers — if I can get Christianity, the Christian Churches, the pastors, the priests, the Bishops, and the Pope himself to recognize that they prepared and seeded the ground for the death-camps and the crematories in which six million people perished — that is already a great gain. And this is what I have dedicated myself to. This is my prophetic mission. I want everybody on this planet to know, and know for sure, that the Holocaust is the work of Christian anti-Semitism which begins in the New Testament, with its lie of deicide, with its lie of the Jews being Christ-killers, with its lie that the Jews destroyed, killed, crucified, the Son of God. That will already be a great gain for TRUTH, and for SANITY.

Having achieved this, I want to show that Christianity has its origins in Judaism; that both Jew and Christian affirm the same truths: the importance, the over-riding importance of human dignity, the over-riding importance of love, freedom and creativity — that human beings are distinguished from all other creatures in the universe by these four things — love, human dignity, freedom, and creativity. Rob a human being of any one of these and you make him less than a human being. Christianity and Judaism are at one in this.

I want to make the world aware that the daughter religions of Judaism are not only Christianity and Mohammedanism, but Christianity, Mohammedanism, and Marxism in our own time. What an amazing people, to have given the world its great universal religions. As a matter of fact, if one really wants to see the profound symbolism of Sadat coming to Jerusalem, one only has to realize that Mohammed borrowed everything that is in the Koran of

value from the Jews of Medina who taught it. The one God, the ethical God, the God that insisted upon righteousness, the God that insisted upon mercy. Where did these Mohammedans learn about mercy, pity, and justice, if not from the Jews of Medina? How fitting then, that a Muslim leader should come to Jerusalem — that side-by-side you should see a Jew and a Muslim; and both are proclaiming what? Peace — Shalom. Where does that word come from? It's a Hebrew word. It was the Jew who first spoke of peace. And now, it's only fitting that Sadat should come because he is, after all, in a sense, a good Jew. You might speak of Christianity and Mohammedanism as Judaism with a nose-job. Both of them, you see, have taken from Judaism the essential principles.

So if there's any hope for the world today, it is precisely because the Jew first gave the world the notion of a universal God and a universal justice. What is Marxism? What is Maoism, if not Judaism with slanty eyes? What are they affirming, if not justice, equality? These are all concepts taken from the Hebrews. So in a way, the whole world has become Judaized. We're all Jews. We're all proclaiming the same principles of justice, equality, freedom, creativity, and love. These are all Hebrew ethical principles.

Do you see yourself then, along with Jesus, as belonging to the line of the ancient prophets?

Yes. I want to claim Jesus as a Hebrew prophet, which he is. If it had not been for Paul, I'm quite sure his sayings would be included along with those of Amos, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. He is certainly a great Hebrew prophet. He does not say anything the other prophets have not said, excepting that he gave it a certain flavour of his own. Each prophet gave some teaching of Judaism his own individual character. Jesus gave his own words the flavour of his own unique personality.

Myself? I consider myself in the line of the great Hebrew prophets. One day your descendants, my descendants, will pick up the Old Testament and they will find a chapter called Israel. That'll be me. After Isaiah and Jeremiah... One can dream.

Well, it's quite possible... Are you still a Marxist?

I am too revolutionary to be a Marxist. And too revolutionary to be a Communist. No poet can be partisan. Marx himself said he was not a Marxist, so why should I say that I'm a Marxist? Marx himself said that every great man is superior to all the little people who take his doctrines and see them through their own narrow blinkers. Marx was too great, just as Jesus was too great. Look at what the Christians have done to the wonderful liberating concepts of Jesus. Look at what the Buddhists have done to the liberating concepts of Buddha. And look what Marxists have done to the very noble, exciting, revolutionary, Promethean concepts of Marx — to reduce it to a set of pitiful dogmas, to make of Marxism a catechism. Can you imagine anything more revolting than

to take Marx's Promethean concepts, Blakelair really, of human nature, and to reduce them to a set of dogmas that you have to utter in order to be in good grace? I can't think of anything more contemptible, frankly.

A Marxist in a sense that Marx was a Marxist? Of course. In the sense that he saw the powerful were always arrogant and indifferent to the comfort and welfare of the poor and the downtrodden.

Do you look back on your earlier work and think — I felt that sense of mission 30-35 years ago, and now it is finding its true expression, its real expression?

Of course. In a sense that's very true. Thirty-thirty-five years ago, I attacked the surface phenomena. I attacked what I call the "efflorescence of Christianity", namely, the gentility, the anti-eroticism, the anti-sexuality, the phillistinism — but these were all surface phenomena. Now it has come to a head because I recognize that it is "Xianity" which is the foundation of all this Christianized culture. Out of this "Xianity" come these patulous roots of gentility, anti-eroticism, hypocrisy, mendacity, a turning away from reality, lying... I see it more clearly; it is all the same horrible bush, so to speak, of "Xianity". This I see more clearly, naturally, because I've now lived to see more clearly the roots, and the fruits, of "Xianity."

In the closing poem of your latest book, "The Covenant", you say:

don't wait for the Martians
or the Venusians
with ears shaped like antennae,
computers in their eagle claws:
come closer, Brothers

Yes, There's the universal message of Judaism. We are all brothers, all brothers under one sky, under one God, give it any name you like. And until we learn to treat one another as brothers and not as enemies, and not as strangers, there's no hope for us. *What are you working on right now?*

I have a new book coming out next year, called "The Tightrope Dancer." That's a book that I wrote this summer, and it carries on some of the themes I have initiated in "For My Brother Jesus" and "The Covenant." I'll do other things as well. Themes again, of love, and change, and death, and sexuality. The image of tightrope that's strung tautly between sexuality and death. So the first part is the dancer who dances on a tightrope that strung tautly between sexuality and death. So the first part of the book has poems of sexuality, eroticism, love; the latter part of the book deals with death. In between I show what happens to human beings when they are confused, and they become sado-masochists, and perverts, and torturers. In other words, this is a book that deals with the difficulty of being human. To put it in a nutshell — it's a book which deals with the human condition, how difficult it is to be a human being.

So now you have assumed more plainly the role of teacher. You've been a troubling poet to many readers — you've shocked them. Now you'll try openly to help people deal with life, and learn how to love — love is the answer...

Yeah... You either love, or you kill. And the human being has to make the choice. Either he will choose love and joy, or he will choose murder and misery. Only the human being can make that choice.



Maria Ciccaglione, in a scene from the Players' Theatre production of *Promenade*.

Promenade With Players'

Promenade, by Maria Irene Fornés and Al Carmines directed by George Kopp music conducted by Wanda Kulzmann choreography by Miriam Singer at Players' Theatre, third floor of the Union to Sat., Dec. 10, and Wed., Dec. 14 to Sun., Dec. 18 8 pm admission \$2.00 for students and senior citizens; \$3.00 for the general public, available at the University Centre Box Office (Sadie's) for reservations call 392-8926 or 392-8989.

by Chris Pomlecko

Beginning yesterday, Players' Theatre is presenting *Promenade*, a musical by Maria Irene Fornés with music by Al Carmines.

Asked why he chose to do the play, director George Kopp replied, "It's a gas. It's really funny, not like any musical I've ever seen. The music is super."

The plot of *Promenade* is a loosely-connected series of incidents centred around the adventures of two escaped prisoners hacking their way through the jungle of society. After crashing a party for the very rich, they team up with a servant, and the three of them, unauthorized persons all, explore the various ways of dealing with authority. First and foremost among these is robbing the party guests of their jewels. At the end of the play the entire cast has landed in jail, which, through the oversight of the jailer is left unlocked. The rich leave for another party but the prisoners choose to remain and plot their next escapade.

Initially, says Kopp, "I was nervous about the script coming off very well. It's a very strange script, which has to be performed to come across."

"It's a political play," says Kopp, "but I'm trying to ignore the politics. There's politics in it, no doubt. It could be done very politically although I don't think that was the author's intention. The running theme is the stupidity of the people in charge, but that's the running theme of the Marx Brothers too."

Kopp feels that *Promenade* is unknown, not through any fault in

script or song, but because of the time of its premiere.

"In 1969," he says, "two shows opened - *Promenade* and *Hair*. *Hair* got all the press, all the imitators, and *Promenade* got nothing, because it's not trendy, and the songs are not hit tunes. The lyrics are clever and off-beat."

Promenade marks the seventh show at McGill directed by George Kopp. Although noted for his Gilbert and Sullivan productions for the Savoy Society, Kopp feels that there is little resemblance between the operettas and *Promenade*. "The only play I've seen which is anything like *Promenade* is the revival of *Candide* staged by Harold Prince, with music by Leonard Bernstein. *Promenade* is a series of adventures and little vignettes," says Kopp.

Promenade is also the third collaboration between Kopp and Wanda Kaluzny who will be conducting the music. Kaluzny is also chef d'orchestre of the Montreal Chamber Orchestra.

Choreographer Miriam Singer is unfamiliar to McGill audiences. Asked why he chose to use non-students for a Players' Theatre production (there are four non-students in the play, three of whom work at McGill), Kopp replies, "It would be nice to do it (the play) with all McGill people, but if we couldn't, we would try to find others. Players' has always had a policy of open auditions for McGill staff as well."

There is no principal actor in *Promenade*. A cast member estimates that there are eight or nine leads to the play, with no one predominating. The cast features Lorraine Lafontaine, Joseph Sohmer, Ivan Smith, Maria Ciccaglione, Konna Kalin, Claire Hopkinson, Jean Huchette, Joseph Sohmer, Marcel Mongeon, Pam Karpiak, Neil Tracey, Jo-Anne Kee, Keir Cutler, Les Simmerman, Stephen Kelley, Nora Gaskin, Sylvia Ansourian, and Kendell Wallis.

Altman Meets The Press

by Nina Gregg

American film director Robert Altman held a press conference last week in his suite at Howard Johnson's to discuss *Quintet*, his new film now on location in Montreal. "I may not answer specific questions, but I won't lie to you," said Altman, setting the tone for an hour of questioning limited mostly to technical and production details.

Quintet will be Altman's fourth film shot in Canada, and the first in Quebec. Montreal was chosen precisely for its reliable winter weather; Altman needed the assurance of snow and ice-covered sets for shooting, which is scheduled to begin in January and run for ten weeks. Sets are now being constructed on the island site of Man and His World. Frigid temperatures should complement the "grim" nature of *Quintet*, for Altman has cautioned the public not to expect any laughs from the film.

Commenting on the state of film as an art form in Canada, Altman said, "If Canada has a national art at all, it is film." He sees Canada as "movie country," and is quite comfortable working here despite what he expressed as a general attitude in the US that Canadian unions and federal regulations make filmmaking difficult here for foreign directors. He finds no dearth of technical talent here, and is using a few local extras in his cast and a Montréal laboratory for processing. Altman attributes some of

are just two members of Altman's cast, and they will be following a screenplay by Pat Resnick, Frank Barhydt and the director himself. Montreal writer Lionel Chetwynd was originally commissioned to do the screenplay for Altman, but after the director paid Chetwynd "a great deal of money" Altman scrapped Chetwynd's script and started over with a draft by Resnick. The story is not based on any existing literature, but is rather an original concept of Altman's. "Books are different mediums," said Altman. "I don't think I'm the person to make good films from books."

Film aficionados will be interested in the director's use of a new filter for *Quintet*, which Altman calls a texture screen. This filter was developed by Harlan Harrison in California, and has an effect Altman calls "Vignette-ing," drawing the viewer's attention to the center of the screen, much like natural vision which allows only diffused peripheral perception. Altman feels this filter has changed his conception of composition, making him less casual in his directing.

Quintet probably won't be released for another year and a half, but in the meantime Altman fans can watch for *Wedding*, scheduled for release late next year. After Altman finishes shooting *Quintet* here, he will go back to California to work on *Romance* with Allan Nichols and an undefined project with Robert Denton (*The Late Show*). Also in the works is a script Frank Barhydt is doing for Carol Burnett.

"The only time I feel content is when I'm working," said Altman. "Some people like to ski; I like to make movies." Altman also likes to maintain a certain amount of privacy concerning his life, apparently. When his son Michael (composer of *M*A*S*H* theme "Suicide is Painless") contracted with a publisher for a biography of his father, Altman threatened to sue. "My son was greedy, the publisher was naïve, and I was angry," said Altman. Michael is now working for his father as an editor in California and Altman projects no forthcoming biography - at least not before his death.

"I follow my own perversity," Altman said, confirming Pauline Kael's observation in her book *Reeling* that Altman's "plenitude comes from somewhere beyond reason."



his independence in working in Canada to his financial backing, which is entirely US based, and adds up to a \$5 million budget for *Quintet*. Bibi Andersson and Paul Newman

Goodbye... continued from

and too funny. One would not expect even a talented man like Elliot Garfield to come up with the well thought lines he does as snappy retorts to the henpecking Paula. Still, Richard Dreyfuss performs admirably and dominates much of the film. He's at his best when taunting Paula, and does a good job as the hunchbacked, clubfooted, slightly palsied, and very foppish Richard III. Dreyfuss almost pulls off some cliché-ridden scenes, especially one in which he adopts the manner and mannerisms of Bogart in order to seduce the still hesitant Paula.

Paula has been bamboozled by the man in her life once too many times. At the beginning of the movie we meet a tough, sinewy broad, trying to stand on her own two feet in this hard, uncaring world. As the film progresses through, she disinte-

grates. No longer on her own financially she chooses to strengthen the bond between Elliot and herself by using his funds to redecorate the apartment according to a scheme she snips from the pages of *House Beautiful*. A once proud and determined woman becomes a silly hausfrau. Marsha Mason capably handles the transition from pre-Garfield Paula to post-Garfield Paula.

Lucy is a cute fourth-grader. If it weren't for the Solomonesque pearls of wisdom she issues on the subjects of love and life her character would be entirely believable.

Neil Simon is, indeed, a fine comedy writer, as he has proven in the past. In the *Goodbye Girl* however, he relies too heavily on the past. Though each actor approaches his role with a healthy spirit, *The Goodbye Girl* suffers from a case of terminal cliché.

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Classifieds...

continued from page 17

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continued on page 19

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Gifts to Mark the Passing Days

by Joan Yanofsky

A calendar is a calendar is a calendar...right? Not necessarily. True, they all provide the same basic information, and are, for the most part, relatively inexpensive. But they can range from the purely functional undecorated desk-set variety to the large, colourful work of art in which the functional aspect has been minimized. The diversified array of calendars described below are just some of those available.



Muriel Goggin, author (at the age of nine) of *Susannah of the Mounties*, 1895.

Under \$10

Herstory - A Canadian Women's Calendar (\$4.95)

This calendar may not prove too popular with the Plumber's Pot but it is attractive, informative and useful. The right-hand page bear the traditional trademark of a calendar - the months and days - with enough space in which to jot down appointments for a particular day. The left-hand pages are reserved for biographies of noted Canadian women, notes on social issues, and poems. The calendar is compact and easily fits on a desk or into a handbag.

Alpine Calendar (\$6.95)

This trilingual (English, French and German) wall-sized calendar has many picture postcard scenes of the Swiss Alps and its lakes and villages. There

is some space in which to mark down engagements. An attractive and colourful, albeit somewhat commercial, calendar.

Eskimo Graphics Agenda Calendar (\$5.95)

Made by the Holman Eskimo Co-operative, Holman, N.W.T. This compact bilingual calendar has the hours of the day conveniently marked out, and as such, it's perfect for anyone whose daily schedule is filled with appointments and meetings. And the Eskimo sketches which appear on every page are delightful. **Images du Québec (\$4.95)**

A small, wall-sized calendar in French only. It opens with the lyrics of Gilles Vigneault: ("Il me reste un pays à te dire / Il me reste un pays à nommer.") and proceeds with full-colour photographs of Quebec scenes, depicted throughout the changing seasons. Lots of space is provided in which to write down appointments. This calendar is functional as well as beautiful.

Ballet Calendar (\$4.95)

A small, desk-size calendar in English, French and German. It consists of black and white photographs of ballet dancers and listings of the days with no room for appointments. Not by any means the most attractive or useful of the calendars.

Cape Dorset Calendar (\$5.95)

This is a great gift for anyone who likes Eskimo art. The pages are filled with colourful stone-cuts and engravings of traditional subjects such as seals and birds. (There is also a whimsical lithograph entitled "Aeroplane" - something not usually seen in Eskimo art.) The lettering of the days and months is very artistic; unfortunately there's no room to write down engagements. In my opinion the most visually appealing of the calendars in this price range.

\$10.00 - \$15.00

Pleasure in Art - Collection Schack-



Galerie Munchen (\$10.95)

This trilingual (English, French and German) calendar presents colour reproductions of German paintings of the 1800s. The pictures and reproductions are of high quality but the lettering is anachronistically modern and gives the calendar a commercial look. No spaces for appointments are provided. All in all, a fairly attractive calendar.

Schöne Alte Hinterglasbilder (\$14.50)

Stunning full-colour reproductions of religious works, accompanied by artistic lettering. This long, narrow calendar is cosmopolitan in more ways than one. Besides featuring photos of ballet companies from all over the world, the days and months are written in (count 'em) five languages. All black and white, and no space for appointments, but attractive anyway.

Jazz and Rock (\$11.00)

An English and German text accompanies the sometimes dramatic, sometimes irreverent photos of the greats of jazz and rock, including Anthony Braxton, Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie and Jimi Hendrix. This wall-size calendar presents the days of the month in a wide band along the bottom of the page.

Ballet International (\$11.00)

This long, narrow calendar is cosmopolitan in more ways than one. Besides featuring photos of ballet



from the *Cape Dorset Calendar*

companies from all over the world, the days and months are written in (count 'em) five languages. All black and white, and no space for appointments, but attractive anyway.

Spitzweg (\$10.50)

A very artistic calendar featuring the paintings of German artist Carl Spitzweg (1808-1885). Some of the paintings have an impressionistic quality while others are clearly outlined. The days and months are at the bottom of the page and seem fairly inconspicuous. It's almost as if this calendar is an art book in disguise.

And now for you big spenders:
\$15.00 - \$20.00

Veduten (\$16.50)

A short, wide calendar, featuring colour engravings of European cities and landscapes, done between 1570-1720. The lettering is lovely and the whole calendar is appropriately printed on yellow parchment-type paper. A work of art.

Hundertwasser (\$20.00)

Reproductions of Hundertwasser's paintings, which combine imaginative use of colour and form and an almost primitive perspective, are set against a black background, with the days of the month displayed in a silver band below. A strikingly original calendar, very large, and definitely worth all the wall space it takes up. (Calendars compliments of Mansfield Book Mart).

Christmas Sweets

by Tom Lindsay

As Christmas draws near and everyone is thinking about going home, it certainly would be nice to be greeted by the smell of home baked cookies as you walk in the door. Here are a couple of Christmas favorites from *The Fannie Farmer Cookbook*.

Gingerbread men

1/2 cup molasses
1/4 cup sugar
4 teaspoons butter
4 teaspoons lard
1 tablespoon milk
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

Heat molasses to boiling point. Add sugar, shortening and milk. Add dry ingredients sifted together. Mix well. Add enough flour to make dough stiff enough to roll out—about 1/4 cup. Be careful not to add too much

flour or the cookies will be hard and tough. Chill one hour or more.

Flour board lightly or dust with confectioner's sugar and roll dough 1/4 inch thick. Cut out with special cutter. Arrange on cookie sheet. Bake at 375° until delicately brown (5 to 8 minutes). Frost with Confectioner's Frosting.

Confectioner's Frosting

Beat the frosting thoroughly until creamy. (A small portable electric beater is a big help.)
1/4 cup boiling water
confectioner's sugar
flavouring

Add sifted sugar to water until thick enough to spread. Beat well. Add flavouring. Add food coloring as necessary.

....

The next recipe is for a basic sugar cookie. These have many variations and can be cut into all shapes, and then decorated appropriately.

Old-Fashioned Sugar Cookies:

For richer cookies use more butter (up to 1 cup). To deepen the colour add an extra egg yolk.
1/2 cup butter
1 cup sugar

1 egg or 2 egg yolks well beaten

1 tablespoon milk

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon baking powder

Cream butter. Beat in sugar, egg, milk and vanilla. Add flour, salt and baking powder sifted together. Mix well. Follow directions for rolling as per gingerbread cookies.

Scotch Shortbread:

1 cup butter (unsalted)

1/2 cup confectioner's sugar

2 cups all-purpose flour

1/4 teaspoon baking powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

Beat butter. Add sugar gradually and flour sifted with baking powder and salt. Roll 1/4 inch thick, cut out in squares or rounds, and prick with fork. Decorate if desired. Bake 20-25 minutes at 350° or until delicately brown. makes two dozen or more.

Christmas Cake with Molasses and Cookies:

Sift: 1 1/2 cups of sugar

Beat until soft: 1/2 cup butter

Add sugar gradually. Blend these ingredients until they are creamy. Beat in one at a time: 9 eggs.

beat in: 2 tablespoons whiskey (at least) — need you ask what to do with the rest?

1 cup molasses

2 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon cloves

1/2 teaspoons allspice

Grate and add:

2 oz. sweet chocolate

1 cup chopped citron, orange or lemon rind

stir in: 2 cups broken pecan meats. sift before measuring: 3 cups all-purpose flour

resift with: 2 teaspoons baking powder

Stir the flour into the other ingredients. Spread the dough in two 9 x 13 inch pans lined with wax paper. Bake the cakes in moderate oven — 350°. Do not permit them to become very dry. When slightly cooled cut the cakes into shapes. Ice them with the following glaze.

Glaze for Christmas Cake

Sift 2 cups of confectioner's sugar. Moisten it with 3 tablespoons or more of boiling water. Flavour it with 1 teaspoon vanilla. Beat the icing until it is a good consistency to spread.

Have a good holiday.

à table de Noël

by Danielle Malone

The winter festival of the pagans received a new name and a new meaning with the coming of Christianity. Church history before the fifth century could not agree upon a date to celebrate and alternated between March 25, 28, November 17, December 25, and January 6. Not until A.D. 354 was the first certain mention made of December 25 as Christ's birth date, and as this was the date of the Roman Nithralc feast in honor of the sun, opponents of the date claimed Christ was being associated with sun worship. In any case, it was not until AD 440 that the church fathers finally decided to set the most important Christian festival, Christ's birth, at the same time as the important pagan celebration, the winter solstice. Thus, as Christianity spread, it was easier to make substitutions: pagan temples were converted into Christian churches, pagan customs took on Christian meanings. The bonfires, candles, and yule logs lent their legends to Christ, "the light of the world," and the holiday gradually became Christmas as we know it today, a combination of religion and folk custom.

The holiday season is a great time to get together; families are reunited, parties are abundant and children love it. Christmas Eve is usually spent in the home. Relatives and friends drop by; stockings are hung up by the children who are sent to bed early to wait for Santa. If the family is French-Canadian, the mother is busy setting the table for the réveillon feast after midnight mass and heating up her ragout and tourtières. In English Canadian families, mass is usually celebrated Christmas morning, before or after opening the gifts.

To keep you well fed during the holidays, I share with you these festive dishes.

Tourtières de Noël

A must on your réveillon menu, a tourtière is a very traditional food of the French Canadian people (not at all like that awful mock-tourtière sold



photo by Tom Balke

in groceries).

- 3/4 lb. minced pork
- 1/4 lb. minced beef
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. cloves (powder)
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 cup water

Place all ingredients in a cooking dish. Bring to boiling. Let it cool. Cook in between two 8" pie crusts, which have been brushed with beaten egg white. Make slits on top crust to let steam evaporate. Cook at 450 F for 15 minutes, then at 400 F for another 15 minutes. Serve with cranberry sauce.

Salade de chou rouge

A great salad to serve with your tourtière.

- 1 medium sized red cabbage, shredded
- 1/2 green pepper, sliced in fine lengths
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup or less maraschino cherries, chopped in halves.

Toss together with 1/2 cup mayonnaise and 2 tab. lemon juice. Quantities vary according to your tastes, you may like to add more mayonnaise, for example. Serve very cold. (3-4 servings)

Punch aux fraises

A delightful drink to serve chilled before dinner or at a party.

- 2 cups fresh strawberries
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 bottles dry white wine (26 oz. each)
- 1 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup water
- 3 cups water

A huge chunk of ice (Fill one of your biggest mixing bowls with water and set in the freezer.)

Night before

Boil together 1 cup sugar and 3/4 cup water to make a syrup. Keep in the fridge.

Next morning

Take half your strawberries; cut them in half. Keep the others whole. If you are using frozen strawberries, omit the 1/2 cup sugar. Pour 1 bottle of wine over the strawberries. Cover and refrigerate for 12 hours.

Party time

Add the other 3 cups water and the other 2 bottles of dry white wine. Mix well and sweeten to your taste with the syrup. Don't forget your ice cube. Double the recipe for 20 people.

Fudge des fêtes

Easy to make; makes 2 lbs. in five minutes time.

In a cooking dish, on medium heat, combine 2 2/3 cup evaporated

milk, 1 2/3 cup white sugar and 1/2 tsp. salt. Heat to boiling point; cook 5 minutes stirring constantly. Add 1 1/2 cups miniature marshmallows, 1 1/2 cups chocolate chips, 1 tsp. vanilla and 1/2 cup chopped nuts. Stir for 1 minute. Pour into a 9" pan, which is buttered. Cool and cut into pieces.

Plain Donuts

Good for breakfast on Christmas morning. Make them ahead of time and freeze them. Heat them up at 300 F and dip them in icing sugar for a real treat!

[Courtesy of Grand-maman LeBlanc]

- 2 tab. shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1/8 tsp. nutmeg
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3 3/4 cups sifted flour

To shortening, add half of sugar and cream slightly. Beat eggs into mixture; then add remaining sugar and milk. Add nutmeg, baking powder and salt to 3 cups flour. Sift again and mix thoroughly. Add to first mixture with remaining 3/4 cup flour to make a soft dough. Roll into 1/3" thickness. Shape with cutter. Fry in deep fat (360-370) degrees, for 3 minutes, turning as soon as they are well browned on underside.

Tolkien...

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absent, such as the hobbits' fondness for good food and drink, fine tobacco, and their endless interests in family relations. If one is able to read the other volumes before *The Silmarillion*, this can be an asset. The importance of "the little guy", of the simple home and family, take on a greater importance when seen against the epic struggle of the Ring and the Silmarils.

Tolkien the humanitarian

Humanity may be one reason for the immense popularity of Tolkien's works. Despite his high seriousness, there is always a sense of humour, an intimation that the common man and his ordinary problems have a place in the machinations of the "great" and "powerful". In this way, despite his conservative religion and politics (which never intrude into the story, amazingly), Tolkien is a true egalitarian. His work is basically about the struggle between Good and Evil, but this struggle is treated dispassionately, always with the understanding that these two categories can quickly reverse themselves. Unlike C.S. Lewis and Charles Williams, two of Tolkien's colleagues as well as fellow "fantasists", he never interprets what happens in Middle-earth. Things take place for good or bad, but it is their outcomes that the reader must weigh from his own experience. Richard Adams (of *Watership Down* and *Shardik* fame) is the only comparable author writing today in the same vein who has as much dispassion and humanity.

Tolkien's Middle-earth is a hierarchical world, but not an elitist one. The significance of the lowly hobbits in the Ring wars is one example of this. The old human values of courage, compassion and wisdom are extolled in his work, and this is

probably another reason for their present-day appeal. These virtues are missing from most of our interpretations of reality these days. But we can enjoy the "old-fashionedness" of the Tales without being threatened by any message or moral. Tolkien's message is probably his lack of judgementalism on "topical" issues. In a time when we are almost all limp from indoctrination on all sides, this comes as a relief and a sort of vague inspiration.

Tolkien's value is in his absolute eccentricity. In the current surfelt of Bilbo Baggins beach balls and Treebeard T-shirts, this aspect of his genius is lost. Middle-earth becomes muddled among the second rate escapist fiction of E.R. Eddison, William Morris and numerous other derivative "epic" writers. Tolkien is not a fantasist. His imagination is too powerful and sure to need to use "fairyland" as an escape hatch. For him the word "fantasy" or "fairy tale" undoubtedly had mystical and sacramental value: he loved myth and Fairy tale for their archetypal significance, their religious and social significance, and, most importantly, for their significance to suggest a simpler, better world. Madison Avenue's attempts to dilute this vision are saddening. By trying to sell Middle-earth to a reluctant public, to a public who can only appreciate that world on questionable terms, it becomes a little like trying to promote a peculiar but utterly original type of new poetry to a group of mechanics.

This is not snobism, it is only purism. Tolkien's masterpieces must be accepted as they are even if he does remain a "cult", which seems impossible now. Perhaps after the current furor dies down a little, his real status will become a little clearer. Neither a prophet nor a populist, Tolkien follows in the ancient tradition of Homer and Apuleius. He is an artist who realizes the simple but essential truth that story-telling, properly done, is one of the first activities of human culture.

The Staff



Chris Pomiecko

I would like to thank the following people from making *The Weekly* what it was this semester (an ambiguous statement if ever there were one):

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To one and all, and anyone I've forgotten on my Christmas list, Happy Holidays and see y'all next semester.

cover photo by Tom Balke

Happy Holidays!

From: The ASUS Executive —

To: All of You!

special warm wishes go to

JILLIAN LYNN, our office secretary,
as well as to the **TEMPUS** Staff and to
all our **VOLUNTEERS!**

this semester has been lots of fun

with

DAVID FRYE — RANDY NEWMAN & STEPHEN BISHOP —
LAYLUM, — JEAN MICHEL COUSTEAU — BILL EVANS TRIO —
BARDE & co-sponsoring HAN SUYIN — ANTHONY BURGESS —
MEL WATKINS — & the TEMPUS

we're hoping to see you for the final BASH

on Friday, Dec. 9, 1977 at 9 PM - 2 AM featuring "TOM SWIFT"
and 3 beers/\$1.00! in the Union Ballroom — Admission 75 cents McGill
Students

* a reminder: **ASUS T-Shirts** make great gifts
(available at SADIE'S — 3480 McTavish Street)

NEXT SEMESTER

**we will need lots more volunteers to help
with upcoming events**

Montreal Jazzfest — Jan. 20

Suitcase Party — Feb. 3

Graduation Dance — April

(just for starters!)

THE NUMBER TO CONTACT IS

392-8950

(between 1-5 PM, Mon-Fri.)

Enjoy your vacations ...

KARL STOCKBRIDGE, MARCIE McGOVERN, ELAINE
HERER, STEPHANIE GERSON, KAREN WEBER, LINDA
KLEIN, BILL MITCHELL, BOB LESPERANCE, TERRY REED,
LUCY GIRLING AND THE ASUS FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE
ASUS FOLK COMMITTEE AND THE ASUS JAZZ COMMITTEE.

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